



CALIFORNIA LEGACY PROJECT
SPOTLIGHT ON CONSERVATION

“NORTH” SOUTH COAST WORKSHOP

WORKSHOP IN LOS ANGELES
SEPTEMBER 4 – 5, 2002

INTERIM REPORT
APRIL 2003



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LEGACY PROJECT WORKSHOP IN LOS ANGELES
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The *Spotlight on Conservation* workshop series is based on the premise that the best way to develop a statewide conservation strategy is to begin with the varied communities within our state and the unique natural and working landscapes in each bioregion. The California Legacy Project will hold nine bioregional workshops across the State in 2002 – 2003. In doing this, we will gain a better understanding of the resources highly valued in the region and the strategies for conservation investment that best fit the regions. These workshops begin our attempt to recognize and build on the considerable work that has been accomplished in California and to customize the state’s strategic investments to the particular needs of each region.

The “North” South Coast *Spotlight on Conservation* workshop, held in Los Angeles on September 4 – 5, 2002, was the third in the series of nine bioregional workshops. This workshop encompassed the northern portion of the South Coast bioregion. As shown on the maps below, the region included portions of Orange, Los Angeles, and Ventura counties.¹

The contents of this report cover:

1. Specific Legacy goals, workshop results, and follow-up actions
2. A general summary of workshop highlights and events
3. Detailed transcriptions, maps, and preliminary analysis resulting from the data exchange session

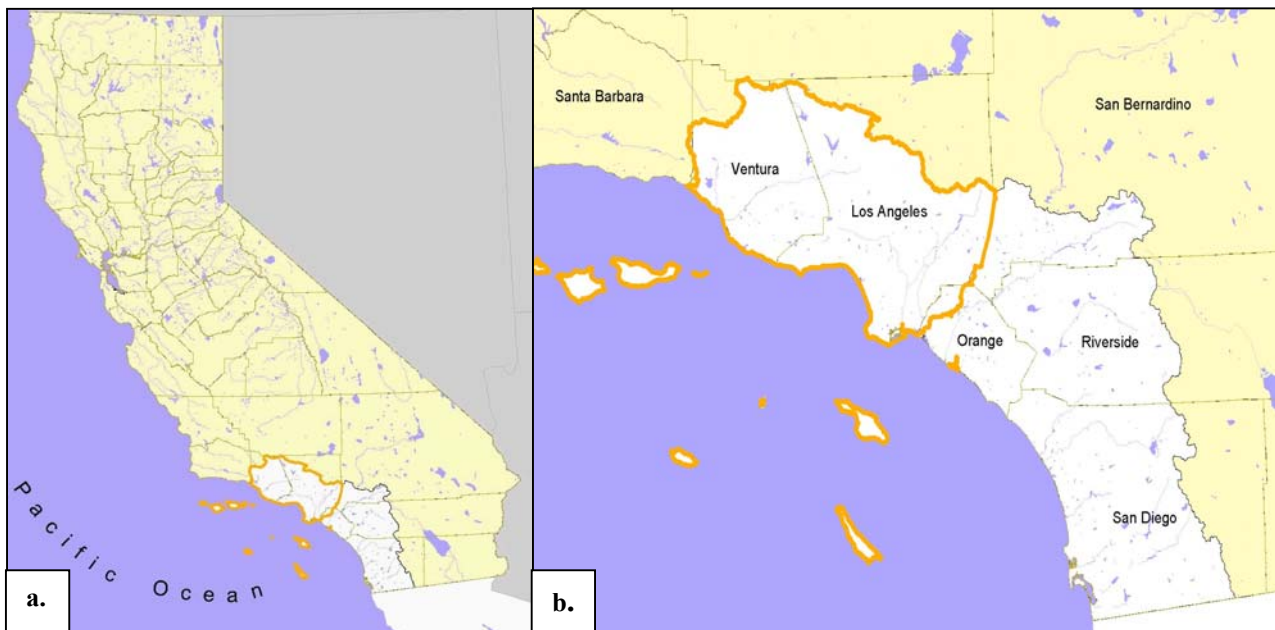


Figure 1a. California’s South Coast bioregion, divided into “South” and “North” South Coast subregions; 1b. Detail of the “North” South Coast region.

¹. Although the majority of Orange County and the coastal portions of San Bernadino and Riverside counties were covered in an earlier “South” South Coast workshop held in San Diego, participants from these counties were invited to the “North” South coast workshop, as well, because we did not get adequate representation from these three counties at the San Diego Workshop.

The workshops were designed to accomplish the following goals:

- Put a spotlight on land and water conservation throughout the state;
- Introduce the Legacy Project to regional conservation stakeholders;
- Elicit information about existing regional conservation plans and priorities; monitoring, management and stewardship projects; and available data sets and;
- Gain a sense of the participant's high priorities for conservation including the criteria they might use for investing in conservation of various resources, and the priority areas/resources and strategies they believe most applicable to their region and interests.

GOALS, RESULTS, AND FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS

In support of these goals, results and follow-up actions are summarized below:

Spotlight conservation: A diverse group of people who work on and are affected by conservation had the opportunity to hear each other's views and to network. People from different parts of the region had an opportunity to share information and think about the region and the State as a whole. For follow-up, participants can add themselves to the email list for Legacy's on-line newsletter, The Watering Hole [<http://legacy.ca.gov/subscribe.epl>]. Also, the Legacy Project staff distributed a participant contact list and will distribute workshop results to participants for review prior to publication.

Introduce the Legacy Project: Participants had the opportunity to ask substantial and challenging questions about the Legacy Project. They appreciated the interest expressed regarding their views about State conservation investment strategies. Resource Agency departments were also able to highlight their valuable work in the

region at display booths and in workshop sessions.

Elicit information: Participants viewed maps of various statewide and regional datasets (e.g. land cover types, publicly owned conservation lands, etc.) for a broad view of regional resources. Legacy staff received contacts for important local datasets and access to data sharing. Participants identified local monitoring, restoration, and stewardship projects, and conservation planning efforts. Overall, Legacy Project staff gained a better sense of places in the region that were high conservation priorities. For follow up, regional maps presented at the workshops and additional information received will be evaluated for inclusion in the web-based California Digital Conservation Atlas [http://legacy.ca.gov/new_atlas.epl]. Sharing this information with state agencies will enable them to consider existing local and regional plans and recommended regional priorities when determining statewide priorities for investment.

Gain a sense of conservation criteria: Participants generated a list of criteria (and ranked them) for Terrestrial Biodiversity, Aquatic Biodiversity, Working Landscapes, Rural Recreation Lands, and Urban Open Space. These criteria will guide the Legacy Project to prioritize development of data and to develop data analysis tools for public use. The criteria will also be compared with results from other regional workshops and presented to agencies and organizations that make conservation funding decisions.

Gain insight on conservation investment tools: In break-out groups, participants were asked to identify regional conservation priorities and strategies. For follow-up, Legacy staff will review differences in sub-regional and region-to-region strategies and will attempt to determine how these differences can be taken into account in developing conservation investment strategies at the state level.

INFORMATION EXCHANGE

One of the key components of the workshop was the Information Exchange session where participants share their knowledge of the area's conservation efforts and their regional and statewide conservation priorities. The six stations' results follow:

Data available and data needs: Participants viewed Legacy's existing regional and statewide maps depicting natural resources datasets, and land ownership and land use boundaries. Eight datasets previously unrecorded by the Legacy Project were brought to our attention. Six areas on our maps were marked as being in need of correction. Data available will help inform the regional and local database survey and will be added to California Environmental Resources Evaluation System (CERES) [<http://ceres.ca.gov>].

Existing and emerging conservation planning efforts: Of the 55 conservation efforts identified, most addressed more than one type of resource. Roughly half addressed Aquatic Biodiversity, and nine watershed-based plans were identified. About half of the programs also addressed Terrestrial Biodiversity and Urban Open Space, with several efforts involving protection of sensitive species' habitat. This input will be compiled into regional maps of existing and emerging conservation plans and areas of conservation interest. These maps will be evaluated for possible inclusion in the online Conservation Atlas.

Private land stewardship: Eleven projects were identified, focusing on orchards, chaparral, watersheds, degraded wetlands, and riparian and river floodplain issues.

Regional conservation priorities: Of the 89 locations identified, the Santa Clara River watershed garnered the greatest attention (receiving more dots than any other location). Additional notable areas included the Santa Susana Mountains, Ballona Wetlands, and Tujunga Wash. Many of the designated priorities centered on habitat linkages and water quality protection.

Statewide conservation priorities: Of the 86 locations identified, the central coast, including Big Sur and Hearst Ranch, received the most attention (with a total of 16 dots). Areas of notable interest also included the region from Tehachapi to the South Sierra, the Santa Monica and Santa Susana Mountains, and sites in Riverside County, including the San Jacinto River and San Timoteo. On a statewide basis, coastal access, habitat linkages, endangered species protection, freshwater issues, and open space preservation were repeatedly cited as important concerns

Natural Resource Project Inventory (NRPI): [<http://www.ca.blm.gov/caso/nrpi.html>]. The station collected information on 18 new projects in the region, largely focused on watershed and riparian restoration projects.

In summary, through the *Spotlight on Conservation* workshop series, the California Legacy Project is making a serious effort to combine input from regional offices of state departments, boards and conservancies as well as local government and private stakeholders in developing a statewide conservation investment strategy. This workshop has allowed the Resources Agency to learn about important local and regional values, data, plans, and priorities in the "North" South Coast.

I. INTRODUCTION

This Interim Report is a summary of the California Legacy Project *Spotlight on Conservation* workshop held in Los Angeles for the northern portion of the South Coast bioregion. Participating counties included parts of Orange, Los Angeles, and Ventura.² The Interim Report is intended to act as a record of the workshop results and make some preliminary analyses of these results.

In an effort to develop California's first-ever statewide resources conservation strategy, The California Legacy Project is working with Resources Agency state departments, boards, commissions and conservancies, CALEPA departments, the California Department of Food and Agriculture, the Governor's Office of Planning and Research, and federal and nonprofit conservation partners. The Project seeks the input of stakeholders affected by conservation investment, as well as advocates for conservation

investment. The Legacy Project will create analytical tools that can help state and federal agencies; local and regional governments; and public and private groups assess resource values and risks, and

conservation opportunities for large landscape areas in each of the state's major bioregions. Such evaluations guide decision-makers to more effective and strategic allocations of funds.

The California Legacy Project includes a wide range of perspectives and incorporates agency and public participation at all levels of its work. It

builds on existing data and conservation efforts, facilitating partnerships in data improvement and conservation actions. Working together with a host of partners, the Project helps to ensure a legacy of natural resources and working landscapes for California's future.

"The California Legacy Project will assist everyone who knows the land and is working to save it. We're making an unprecedented effort to reach out to those who care about the future of California's natural resources. I invite you to get involved in this exciting effort to work with us on the state-of-the-art tools and conservation strategies that will help protect and restore California's natural resources and working landscapes."

**-Mary D. Nichols
Secretary for Resources**



² Participants were also invited from the coastal portions of San Bernadino and Riverside counties and some of the southern portion of Orange County because an earlier workshop covering the "South" South Coast did not get adequate representation from these three counties.

II. SESSION RESULTS

LETTER FROM SECRETARY NICHOLS

At the outset of the workshop, workshop participants were presented with a letter from Mary D. Nichols, Secretary for Resources. Secretary Mary D. Nichols observed that at the same time participants were gathering in Los Angeles for the *Spotlight on Conservation* workshop, global leaders were convening in Johannesburg to discuss sustainable development in a global context. She noted that participants at the Legacy workshop would be considering issues closely related to those discussed at the Global Summit, most notably population growth and questions of how to grow in a manner that meets a definition of sustainability.

The Legacy Project, she wrote, attempts to address one piece of the puzzle of sustainability: figuring out how to develop regional programs for land conservation that meet the needs of recreation and quality of life, as well as habitat needs of plants and animals.

Given the pressures of population increases and development, Secretary Mary D. Nichols emphasized that time is of the essence. She forecast that in the Los Angeles/ Orange/Ventura region, the window of opportunity to establish an action plan for achieving conservation priorities may be only five to ten years.

Secretary Mary D. Nichols reminded participants that nearly a century ago the

sons of great park designer Frederick Law Olmstead presented a plan for Los Angeles to build a central park, envisioning a city built around a central unifying structure of open space and greenways. However, the City chose not to adopt that plan because of concerns that it was too expensive. Secretary Nichols drew a parallel to the passage of Proposition 40 as a contemporary opportunity that cannot be allowed to pass by, and she challenged participants to use the current window of time and funds wisely. In order to work toward outlining and achieving conservation priorities.

WORKSHOP OPENING

To open the workshop, Los Angeles County Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky welcomed the participants and noted the importance of valuing and conserving regional resources. Darryl Young, Director, California Department of Conservation acknowledged and commended the tremendous amount of effort that had already gone into conservation planning and data development in the “North” South Coast region. He also complemented the Legacy Project’s scope, such as the project’s broad definition of conservation, including not only biodiversity, but also urban open space and rural recreation opportunities, and also the broad range of conservation tools the project supports, including not only acquisition but also private land stewardship and restoration.

REGIONAL EXISTING AND EMERGING PLANS , CHALLENGES, AND OPPORTUNITIES

As part of the first day of the workshop, participants were challenged with identifying the region's existing and emerging conservation plans. A significant number of conservation planning efforts centered on watershed plans and habitat linkages and corridors.

While these efforts were designed to meet some of the "North" South Coast's most pressing issues, participants also detailed a host of regional challenges including: addressing housing shortages while maintaining open space; managing a limited water supply; and accomplishing meaningful stewardship and preservation of conservation of areas that are surrounded and fragmented by urbanization.

Opportunities to improve upon these conditions were also presented, including: formation of regional partnerships with governmental entities such as the Department of Defense, Army Corps of Engineers, and the US Fish and Wildlife Service; increased legislation to facilitate conservation strategies such as land acquisition, easements, and infill development patterns; and improved environmental education.

Below are the lists of the Existing and Emerging Plans, Opportunities, and Challenges identified by the participants at the "North" South Coast Workshop. These are not intended to be exhaustive lists of regional plans, or of possible opportunities and constraints; rather, these lists document the projects and ideas that were foremost in participants' minds at the start of the workshop.

EXISTING AND EMERGING PLANS:

1. Ballona Creek & Wetland Watershed Plan
2. LA & San Gabriel Watershed Plan
3. Angeles & Los Padres National Forest Plan
4. Baldwin Hills Open Space
5. South Coast, Missing Linkages
6. Southern California Foothills & Mountains Assessment (includes 4 National Forests)
7. Ventura Los Padres National Forest Management Plan
8. Malibu Creek Watershed plan
9. Santa Ana Regional Watershed
10. Santa Clara River Water Plan
11. LA County Significant Ecological Area Update
12. Heal the Bay Restoration Plan
13. San Pedro Bay Restoration Plan
14. Puente Chino Hills Corridor Plan
15. Special Area Management Plans: Santa Margarita, San Jacinto, San Timoteo Watershed Plan
16. Redondo Beach Bluffs
17. LA River Master Plan
18. Sun Valley Watersheds
19. California 4.4 plan (for water management)
20. Ventura River Habitat Conservation Plan
21. Chino Valley Agriculture Open Space Strategic Plan
22. Azuza/ San Gabriel River Plan
23. Coyote Creek Restoration Plan
24. Trust for Public Land Green Printing
25. La Jolla Restoration Plan
26. El Dorado Park (Nature Center) Master Plan
27. Southern California Integrated Water Resources Plan
28. Arroyo Seco watershed plan
29. Cold Creek Restoration Plan



In the lists below, bold print denotes those items that seemed especially unique to the “North” South Coast region.

OPPORTUNITIES

1. Overhaul state education code to improve conservation education
2. Use environmental projects for education
3. Stakeholder group for communication
4. Fuel modification-conserving resources
5. Multiple options vs. single answers
6. California Legacy Project
7. Use of youth conservation corps/ education
8. Citizen initiatives to protect resources
9. Partner with Department of Defense for mutual benefit
10. Form So. CA habitat joint venture with the US Fish & Wildlife Service
- 11. Address housing shortage without using up open space**
12. Critical mass of poets & artists to provide their input
- 13. Santa Ana River State Park, includes portions of 3 Counties, allows cross-county collaboration**
14. Establish 100 neighbor councils in LA County
15. More State oversight of conservancies
16. New Farm Bill funding for easements
17. Preserve agricultural lands
- 18. Create new wetlands for water quality improvement**
19. Cost-sharing opportunities: How do we do it?
20. California Leadership
- 21. Reclaimed water**
- 22. Farmland-Urban edge as a prime place for conservation projects**
23. Public/ Private Partnerships
- 24. Storm water diverted for groundwater recharge**
- 25. High impact urban conservation**
- 26. Infuse state Office of Policy and Research with conservation thinking; including infill definition**
27. Tech/ web opportunities to educate and organize
28. Southern California Open Space Council
29. Improving public transportation
30. Utility easements as habitat corridors
31. Corporate stewardship
32. Engage volunteers in resource management
33. Proximity of Universities and agencies with expertise
34. Buy now! Manage later
35. State Agency “circuit rider” should have more presence
36. Address potential secession of half of largest city
37. Respecting private property when using eminent domain
38. Legislation to ease restriction on land acquisition
39. More collaboration between State & Army Corp of Engineers
- 40. Preserve wildlife corridors (highways, etc.)**

CHALLENGES

- 1. Habitat fragmentation**
2. Upper Santa Clara River has no plan
3. Not enough land management staff
4. Conflicting goals between plans
5. Land acquisition money shortage
6. Need for education; plans are available
7. Need to evaluate protection vs. restoration
8. Brownfields
9. Political roadblocks at local level
- 10. Loss of native grassland & coastal sage scrub**
- 11. Limited water supply**
12. State housing element does not consider conservation
- 13. Growing poverty**
- 14. Reliance on military land as Endangered Species Act habitat**
15. Providing Americans with Disabilities Act data & facilities
16. Fears of association of humans with dangerous outdoors (snakes, fires, mountain lions)
- 17. Conflicts between recreation vs. conservation**
- 18. Air quality problems**
19. Citizen initiatives to protect land can be problematic
20. Poor inter-jurisdiction communication
21. How to implement multi-objective implementation
- 22. Definition of conservation in urban context**
- 23. Management of open space surrounded by development**
24. Habitat restoration vs. preservation
25. Organization of agencies around watershed
26. Outdated general plans
27. Reaching underrepresented public
28. SILO issue (multiple government agencies and departments working on the same issues with different goals; redundancy in efforts with limited \$)
- 29. Sprawl development pattern**
30. Farmland conservation
31. Lack of quality tools for resources analysis
32. Climate change
33. Lack of coordination with major infrastructure
34. In Lieu Natural Community Conservation Plan fees should be consistent or level with mitigation bank credit prices
35. Cumbersome environmental documentation
36. Inequality in funding between rural urban areas
37. Diversify stakeholder groups
38. Limited access to public GIS data
39. Non-native species eradication
- 40. Managing water rights & threatened & endangered species**
41. Natural disturbance regimes
42. Environmental justice
43. Lack of agreed upon scale for GIS data.
44. Habitat vs. security and safety
45. Dept. of General Services appraisal review process
- 46. Unlimited use because of designation of Southern CA Rivers by the State Water Board**

IDENTIFYING AND WEIGHTING REGIONAL CONSERVATION CRITERIA

On the morning of the second day, small breakout groups were formed and charged with the following mission:

“Identify characteristics or elements (called criteria) of the resource that makes it desirable or valuable to conserve”

Or, participants could identify characteristics or elements that one might use to avoid investing in conservation (such as areas of high urban value).

Each group identified conservation criteria for one of five resource categories: Terrestrial Biodiversity, Aquatic Biodiversity, Working Landscapes, Urban Open Space, and Rural Recreation. Once the small group identified criteria, they edited, simplified, and refined them.

In the large group, facilitators presented each of the criteria. For each resource category, participants ranked all of the criteria, numbering them from highest to lowest priority (1=highest priority). Our process of criteria ranking purposefully does not ask participants to express priority between different resource types (e.g. aquatic biodiversity criteria aren't ranked against working lands criteria). Rather, participants are only asked to express priority within a given resource category (e.g. the identified aquatic biodiversity criteria are ranked against one another).

Based on the full group's scores, a relative level of priority is then determined for each criterion. The process for determining relative priority is as follows: For each criterion, all of participants' scores are summed. Once the values for each criterion are totaled, a "percent rank of total score" is calculated. The criteria with the maximum total score is be given a 100% and all other scores are given a percentage relative to that maximum

score. A model for extracting “natural breaks³” is then used to group the relative percent scores into three classes (low, medium, and high priority).

The criteria designated as high priority for each resource topic are listed below:

- *Terrestrial Biodiversity* – Intact ecosystems; Habitat linkages; Diversity of species and habitats; and Core areas
- *Aquatic Biodiversity* – Hydrologic processes and floodplain functions; Unique aquatic biodiversity; Landscape connectivity; and Intact aquatic and riparian communities
- *Working Landscapes* – Protects watershed health and processes; Has ecological and habitat values and corridors; At high risk of urban conversion and promotes infill; and Economic viability
- *Urban Open Space, Fringe* – Presence of habitat, natural resources, endangered species, and contributes to ecosystem diversity; and Provides corridors and linkages
- *Urban Open Space, Core* - Areas underserved by amount of parkland; and Can meet multiple objectives
- *Rural Recreation* – Achieves multiple benefits in addition to recreation; Intact ecosystems where uses don't impact endangered species; and Connectivity to existing open space

The tables that follow display the complete list of criteria (selected by the small break-out groups) for each resource topic, and their relative level of priority (as determined by the full group). The associated graphs depict the frequency and distribution of scores. Although the graphs are small, ranking patterns can be seen, and it is possible to observe where there was general agreement or disagreement in ranking the criteria.

³. The Jenk's Model extracts “natural breaks” between the relative percent scores by grouping them into 3 classes in which the sum of each group's variance is minimized.

It is important to note that the goal of this exercise was to observe where there was agreement or disagreement about important criteria. The scores are not the result of a consensus process; rather, they reflect the range of opinions of the participants at the workshop.

WORKSHOP ATTENDEES REFLECTIVE OF REGIONS

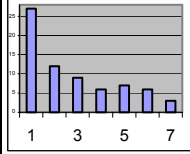
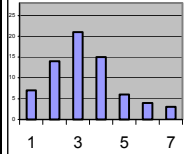
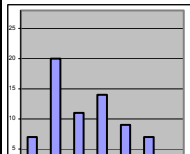
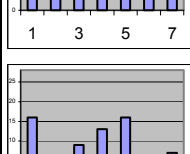
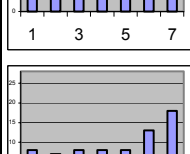
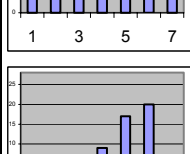
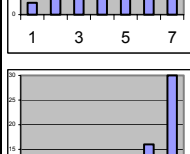
All of the workshop invitees are recommended to Legacy staff as being knowledgeable about, interested in, and concerned about regional conservation and natural resource issues. In extending invitations, we attempt to be thorough and to include a broad range of viewpoints and equitable distribution across the region. However, our participant groups ultimately represent a relatively small, self-selected, focus group. Thus, we recognize that the

recorded responses are not representative of the public or of the full spectrum of perspectives.

These criteria will not be used as final recommendations for conservation investment purposes. Rather, in reviewing the Criteria session results, the Legacy Project hopes to observe general patterns, unique discussion outcomes, and commonalities between and among regions. The criteria that are widely agreed upon by participants will guide the Legacy Project in developing data, maps, and analysis tools for public use. This information will also be combined with results from other regional workshops and provided to conservation decision makers for their consideration. The data will also be used as a next step to involve people from each region in developing regionwide conservation investment strategies.

DETAILED BREAKDOWN OF CRITERIA WEIGHTING

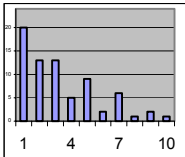
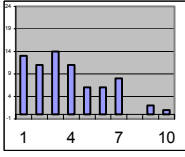
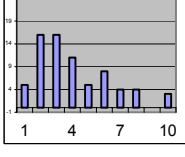
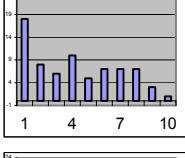
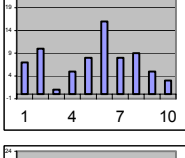
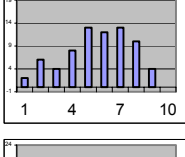
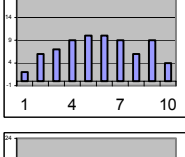
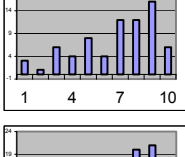
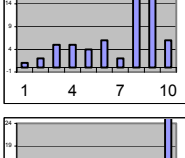
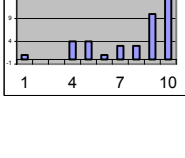
Table 1a. Criteria for Terrestrial Biodiversity conservation

Criteria	% of MAX. SCORE	Relative Importance	Mean	Frequency of scores
Intact ecosystems - low fragmentation, natural disturbance regimes, ecosystem processes, low disturbance, keystone species, persistence of large carnivores	100%	HIGH	2.77	
Habitat linkages - dispersal, movement, migratory, wildlife overpasses/underpasses, important landscape context, allow for climate change, between regions, contribute to core areas	97%	HIGH	3.33	
Diversity (both species and habitats) - high species & habitat diversity, representative ecosystems, low elevation ecosystems, physical diversity (soil, geology, geomorphology, elevation, physiognomic), elevation gradients, small enclaves of diversity, meets multiple objectives (one example: oak woodlands)	97%	HIGH	3.39	
Core Areas - large natural areas, sustainable, opportunities to create new complex of protected areas, adjacent to existing protected lands, buffer zones	95%	HIGH	3.69	
Vulnerability - proximity to urban areas, threatened areas or ecosystems, potential for land use change	90%	MED	4.60	
Sensitivity - Threatened & Endangered species and habitats, endemics, disjunct populations & stands, range edges	90%	MED	4.69	
Opportunity - potential for habitat restoration, charismatic or beautiful landscape, maximize acres per \$ spent, chance to protect from urban sprawl, window of opportunity, meets multiple objectives, all vacant land	85%	LOW	5.51	

TERRESTRIAL BIODIVERSITY

There was a high level of agreement that the top three ranking criteria (“Intact Ecosystems”, “Habitat Linkages”, and “Diversity”) were important. The general agreement about these three criteria, and especially the strong contingent of people who ranked “Intact Ecosystems” highest, shows that the participants generally believed that protecting remaining examples of intact, healthy ecosystems would be the best way to achieve meaningful conservation of Terrestrial Biodiversity. The criterion “Core Areas” was also designated as high priority, but there was notably less agreement among participants about the importance of this criterion. The criteria “Vulnerability” and “Sensitivity” both received a fairly even distribution of votes across the range of scores and an overall ranking of medium importance. This could reflect ambivalence of participants toward investment in systems, places, or species perceived to be on the brink of our capacity to protect them. On one hand, high threat levels can serve as a call to take action before it is too late; on the other hand, there may be hesitation to squander limited resources and energy on losing battles. The only criterion given a low rating was “Opportunity”. This is interesting because availability of opportunities is not really a criterion that can be used to identify areas where conservation investment is needed. Rather, “Opportunity” represents more of a strategic consideration that might help prioritize potential investment options.

Table 1b. Criteria for Aquatic Biodiversity conservation

Criteria	% of MAX. SCORE	Relative Importance	Mean	Frequency of scores
Hydrologic processes and floodplain functions (e.g. maintenance & restoration of critical flows and unique natural flow regimes and hydrologic flow regimes (permanent, intermittent, ephemeral sediment transport))	100%	HIGH	3.33	
Unique aquatic biodiversity in region (e.g. wetlands, special-status species, communities and habitat genotypes)	97%	HIGH	3.76	
Landscape (local, regional, global) connectivity in watersheds from ridge to ocean (habitat linkages, drainage connectivity)	96%	HIGH	4.06	
Maintain & preserve intact aquatic and riparian habitat and communities	95%	HIGH	4.18	
Maintenance & improvement of water quality and quantity management and supply (impervious surface reduction, groundwater recharge, capture stormwater, constructed wetlands)	88%	MED	5.40	
Imminence and intensity of threat (e.g. invasive species, disease, pollution, climate change)	87%	MED	5.58	
Multiple benefits (e.g. economic considerations, recreation, environmental justice, education, water quality, flood management)	86%	MED	5.74	
Restoration potential	79%	LOW	6.76	
Partnerships and institutional opportunities (model demonstration projects, compatibility with military and other uses, and stewardship infrastructure)	77%	LOW	7.21	
Level of accountability, measurability, ability to get feedback	67%	LOW	8.86	

AQUATIC BIODIVERSITY

Three of the four criteria that received high importance rankings encompassed the notion of working and planning at a large scale (“Hydrologic process and floodplain functions,” “Landscape connectivity,” “Maintain and preserve intact communities”). There was especially strong agreement that the highest-ranking criterion, “Hydrologic process and floodplain functions,” was an important factor to consider. There was low agreement about the importance of “Maintenance and improvement of water quality and quantity management and supply” and “Multiple benefits,” with participant’s rankings ranging across the board. It is interesting to note that “Restoration potential” scored low. Over the course of the workshop, restoration was frequently cited as a needed action or a primary purpose of existing projects (see Existing and Emerging Conservation Plans on Regional Conservation Priorities). However, the low scores assigned to “Restoration Potential,” suggest that participants place much higher value on aquatic systems already intact or closer to pristine. Also, once again, strategic and implementation considerations (“Partnerships & institutional opportunities” and “Level of accountability”) scored low.

Table 1c. Criteria for Working Landscapes conservation

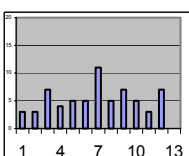
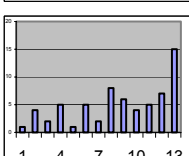
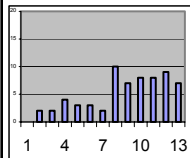
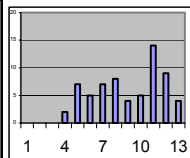
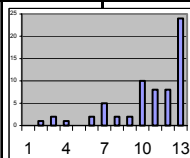
Criteria	% of MAX. SCORE	Relative Importance	Mean	Frequency of scores
Protects watershed health and processes (floodplain management and water quality)	100%	HIGH	4.05	
Has ecological & habitat values or provides corridors	96%	HIGH	4.63	
High risk of conversion to urban use, and areas that promote infill and redevelopment	96%	HIGH	4.69	
Economic viability: soils, water, multiple crops	92%	HIGH	5.38	
Supports the region's capacity to sustain agriculture (e.g. labor, markets, public/private partnerships)	89%	MED	5.91	
Provides buffers for other "sensitive" uses (e.g. habitat, military bases)	84%	MED	6.71	
Situations where urban impacts threaten agricultural land use	83%	MED	6.89	
Has ability to provide food locally	82%	MED	7.11	
Ability to accommodate multiple uses (rangeland)	75%	LOW	8.18	
Consistency with local land use policy (e.g. infill strategy protecting historical farm areas within urban context)	71%	LOW	8.86	

Table 1c continued. Criteria for Working Landscapes conservation

Ability to mitigate to offsite impacts of agricultural use	70%	LOW	8.97	
Provides research, education, and ag tourism opportunities	70%	LOW	9.02	
Can accommodate fee acquisition as opposed to conservation easements	61%	LOW	10.60	

WORKING LANDSCAPES

There was a relatively high level of agreement that the top two ranking criteria (“Protects watershed health” and “Ecological and habitat values”) were important. Among the four criteria that received high importance rankings, these two highest ranking both focused on ecological characteristics. “Economic viability” scored among the high importance criteria, but the other two criteria addressing economic or agricultural values (“Supports the region’s ability to sustain agriculture,” “Ability to produce food locally”) received rankings of medium importance. These result may reflect the participants’ belief that working landscapes should contribute multiple benefits (including ecological value) to merit conservation investment. It also reflects the low representation of landowners, farmers, and ranchers at this workshop who would typically consider economic and agricultural criteria over ecological ones. (Smaller-scale workshops targeting working land interests were subsequently initiated.) It is also noteworthy that there was a great deal of disagreement in the participants’ scoring of the top two medium priority criteria (“Supports the region’s capacity to sustain agriculture,” “Provides buffers for other ‘sensitive’ uses”). For both of these criteria, there were strong feelings in both directions. Large numbers of participants ranked these the criteria as being among the most important, but there were also large numbers of participants that gave them low importance rankings.

URBAN OPEN SPACE

The small breakout group charged with the mission of identifying criteria for Urban Open Space found that this is a complex resource type in the LA region. After generating many ideas for criteria for that would be important in conservation planning and investment, the group experienced difficulty when attempting to consolidate their ideas into a single list that could be ranked by the large group. Ultimately, when it came time to vote on the criteria, the small group members felt that the list that had been produced did not adequately reflect the group discussion. A decision was made to hold a working-lunch in order to develop a list of criteria that would be agreeable to all.

Over the course of further discussion during this lunch-session, the group recognized that a major hurdle in attempting to generate a list had been that in an region as large, diverse, and highly urbanized as the LA region, the urban-center, infill issues are different from issues at the urban edge.

The State's acquisition of the "Cornfields" properties along the LA River that had been slated for development exemplified the type of project participants envisioned when they thought of an urban-center, infill project. On the other hand, the Santa Monica Mountains Conservation areas are the type of sites that many participants felt were representative of issues at the urban edge.

Participants strongly felt that the criteria that would best guide conservation investment in the urban "core" would be different from those that would be useful at the urban edge. Therefore, two separate criteria lists were generated, one for "Core" Urban Open Space, and one for the "Edge" Urban Open Space.

Some workshop participants also requested that a transcription of the first brainstorming session (before the separate categories were established) be included in this report. The notes from that preliminary brainstorming session are below, followed by the criteria lists and rankings for "Core" and "Edge" Urban Open Space.

Urban Open Space: Preliminary Brainstorming Session Notes

Meets multiple objectives
Potential for groundwater recharge
Bioremediation
Treating contaminated stormwater and/ or soil
Flood protection
Quality of habitat: native species; migration refugia; surrounded by urban areas; rare/ endangered species, focal species; site biodiversity
Connectivity or linkage value
Amount of wildlife relative to other areas
Restoration potential
Water/ air quality
Aesthetic value & viewsheds
Property of Statewide significance
Psychological satisfaction: presence of charismatic species
Service area
Human health
Demographics: diversity & density of population
Accessibility for underserved populations
Per capita availability/ open space equity
Buffer zone between industrial/ residential/ park space/ defines edge

Recreation: active & passive
Educational potential
Historical, cultural, or archeological significance
Education, cultural, historical value; relationship to university or extension program
Safe accessibility
Urban agriculture
Integration with brownfield development
Threat of development: zoning; brownfields; high risk of conversion
Site viability: ability to maintain ecological value; level of disturbance; sustainability
Access easements
Economic enhancement/ development/ job creation
Fire control
Landslide control
Non-motorized transportation
Partnership potential
Opportunity to purchase
Threat of development
Contribution to [implementation of] existing and emerging plans

Summary

1. Presence of habitat, natural resources, endangered species and contributes to ecosystem biodiversity
2. For diverse population
3. Opportunity to acquire, protect, restore
4. Ability to prevent sprawl / define urban boundary- risk of urban conversion
5. Multiple ecosystem objectives/ functions
6. Wildlife corridors and habitat linkages
7. "Last chance" opportunities for preservation
8. Ability to compliment existing plans & preserves

Table 1d. Criteria for Urban Open Space -Edge conservation

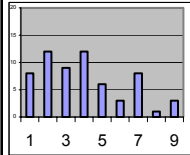
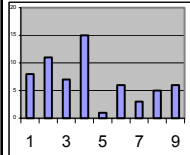
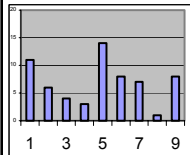
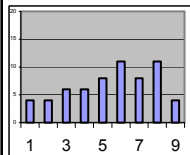
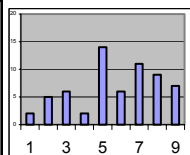
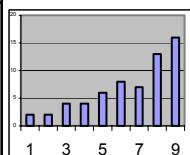
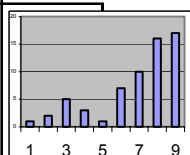
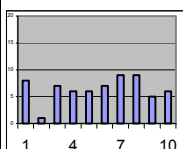
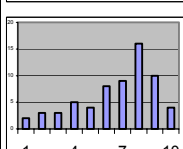
Criteria	% of MAX. SCORE	Relative Importance	Mean	Frequency of scores
Presence of habitat, natural resources, endangered species, and contributes to ecosystem diversity	100%	HIGH	2.87	
Wildlife corridors and habitat linkages	94%	HIGH	3.97	
Ability to prevent sprawl or define urban boundary (risk of urban conversion)	92%	MED	4.31	
Protects multiple ecosystem objectives & functions	91%	MED	4.35	
"Last chance" opportunities for preservation	89%	MED	4.74	
Opportunity to acquire, protect, restore	85%	MED	5.48	
Ability to compliment existing plans and preserve urban open space edge	83%	LOW	5.74	
Availability for diverse human populations	78%	LOW	6.60	
Opportunities for historical, cultural, and educational benefits	76%	LOW	6.94	

Table 1e. Criteria for Urban Open Space -Core conservation

Criteria	% of MAX. SCORE	Relative Importance	Mean	Frequency of scores
Areas that are under served by amount of parkland	100%	HIGH	3.59	
Can meet multiple objectives (e.g. flood protection, recharge, recreation, Total Daily Maximum Load's) for ecosystem functions	98%	HIGH	3.95	
Recreational linkages, habitat and wildlife corridors	93%	MED	4.75	
Proximity to high population density (with walking distance)	92%	MED	4.92	
Opportunity to acquire &/ or restoration	92%	MED	4.97	
Enhances sense of community and sense of place	87%	MED	5.73	
Presence of historical and cultural resources and opportunities for education	82%	LOW	6.50	
Potential for restoration (one example: Brownfields) (unpave L.A.)	82%	LOW	6.55	
Addresses socio-economic needs	81%	LOW	6.66	
Opportunity for job creation and environmentally sustainable economic development	77%	LOW	7.38	

URBAN OPEN SPACE - EDGE

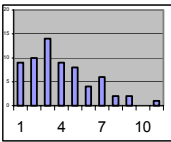
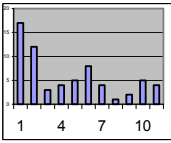
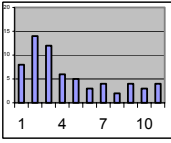
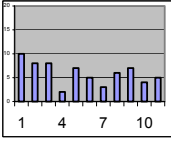
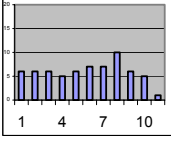
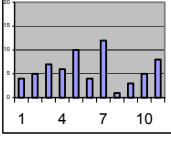
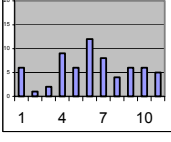
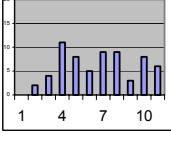
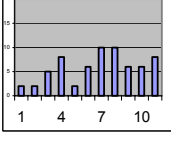
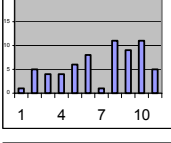
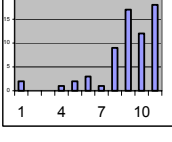
Once again, participants placed high value on ecological characteristics. The two criteria that were classified as being of high importance both focused on ecological characteristics and open space value to wildlife. There was especially strong agreement about the importance of the top-ranking criteria (“Presence of habitat, natural resources, endangered species, contributes to ecosystem diversity”). This tendency to focus on ecological values may not only reflect the biases of our participant group, but may also indicate that ecological issues are in tremendous need of attention and consideration in the LA region. There was a wide range of opinions about the importance of urban open spaces’ “Ability to prevent sprawl or define urban boundary,” as well as about “Protects multiple ecosystem objectives,” “‘Last chance’ opportunities for preservation,” and “Opportunity to acquire, protect, or restore” with some participants finding these criteria important, and others believing them unimportant. There may have been uncertainty about the “Opportunity to acquire, protect, or restore” criteria because, as noted previously, the availability of opportunities is not really a criterion that can be used to identify areas where conservation investment is needed. Rather, “Opportunity” represents more of a strategic consideration that might help prioritize potential investment options. There was strong agreement that “Opportunities for historical, cultural, and education benefits” and “Availability for diverse human populations” were of low importance. Criteria similar to “Availability for diverse human populations” received higher importance ratings when considering Urban Open Space in Core Urban Areas.

URBAN OPEN SPACE - CORE

The criterion “Areas that are under served by existing parkland” ranked highest and there was strong agreement about its importance. This demonstrates that recreational and societal needs were considered to be fundamental in planning for conservation of Open Space in Core Urban Areas. Participants felt that in Core Urban Areas conservation investments should be made in ways that best serve people. Participants did not feel that this excluded ecological concerns, however, as the criteria ranked second and third in importance again both included reference to ecological values, with “protection of ecosystem functions” and “wildlife corridors” mentioned. There was strong agreement that the two lowest ranking criteria (“Addresses socio-economic needs” and “Opportunity for job creation and environmentally sustainable economic development”) were of low importance, suggesting that participants didn’t believe that Urban Open Space should be expected to provide economic benefits.

The participants’ decision to make a distinction between “Edge” and “Core” Urban Open Space is significant. Urban lands, especially in core areas, are costly, highly sought after for urban development, and often not particularly valuable from an ecological point of view. The decision to generate criteria focused on core urban areas indicates that participants from this region place a high value on the need for open space that can meet the needs of dense and often underserved populations in the urban core.

Table 1f. Criteria for Rural Recreation conservation

Criteria	% of MAX. SCORE	Relative Importance	Mean	Frequency of scores
Achieves multiple benefits in addition to recreation	100%	HIGH	3.97	
Intact ecosystems where uses do not impact endangered species	97%	HIGH	4.42	
Connectivity to existing open space and recreation	97%	HIGH	4.51	
Ability to restrict urban encroachment	91%	MED	5.38	
Adequate management and maintenance resources	89%	MED	5.72	
Biggest bang for the buck	87%	MED	6.00	
Accessibility	86%	MED	6.29	
Enhances or does not negatively impact quality of life in communities	83%	MED	6.74	
Expands limited recreation opportunities	82%	MED	6.94	
Capacity to support multiple recreation opportunities	81%	MED	7.05	
Meets user specialty needs	69%	LOW	8.98	

RURAL RECREATION

The highest ranking criterion was “Achieves multiple benefits in addition to recreation.” This emphasis beyond recreation-value in the top-ranking criterion did not mean that participants felt that recreation was unimportant. According to one of the facilitators for this group, participants strongly wished to enhance recreational opportunities and felt that Rural Recreation was tremendously important, but believed that it should be considered in conjunction with other ecological needs. Once again ecological characteristics figured among the highest ranking criteria, with “Intact ecosystems with uses, not impacting endangered species” receiving the second highest ranking. There was strong agreement that the criterion “Meets user specialty needs” was of low importance.

SMALL GROUP SESSION: REGIONAL PRIORITIES AND STRATEGIES

The task of the second small group session was to discuss conservation priorities and strategies for addressing those priorities. Participants were divided into five small groups by subregion: Orange County, Ventura County, Coastal Los Angeles, Inland Los Angeles, and the Inland Region (San Bernadino Co./ West Riverside Co.)⁴

- All five subregions discussed watershed- based conservation goals and strategies, either citing watershed-scale planning as a potential strategy, or identifying some portion of a watershed as one of their group's priorities.
- All groups also noted the importance of preserving corridors and connectivity. Four of the five groups listed either linkages and corridors in general or a site with linkage-value among their priorities, while the fifth group suggested corridor preservation as a strategy that would address other priorities.
- Prevention of sprawl, encouragement of urban infill, and promotion of smart growth were also deemed important strategies by all five groups.
- All five groups also noted both acquisition and public education as valuable strategies.
- Four of the five groups developed priorities or strategies directed at target species, such as:
 - threatened and endangered species
 - anadromous fish
 - large carnivores and large mammals
- Tax or monetary incentives to encourage conservation-oriented activities were also cited as strategies by 4 of the 5 groups.
- For two of the three subregions covering coastal areas (Coastal LA and Ventura Co.), coastal protection, beach stabilization, and coastal water quality were cited as priorities.
- In generating strategies, the Orange County group took an approach focused on implementation. In particular, many of the strategies focused on specific legislation or governmental entities capable of facilitating or overseeing conservation projects. The weaknesses and strengths of these tools were discussed.

Discussion results of the subregional groups follows:

⁴. These subgroups addressed only the coastal portions of the counties; the Mojave Desert portions of Los Angeles, Riverside, and San Bernadino counties were included in a separate Mojave/ Colorado Desert Workshop.

1. PRIORITIES AND STRATEGIES FOR COASTAL LOS ANGELES

Priorities	Strategies Addressing this Priority ⁵
1. Coastal wetlands (prohibit their destruction)	A
2. Major Southern California rivers & buffer zone <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 100 yr flood plain – No “hardening” of corridors/ coastlines 	A
3. No development of tidelands	J
4. Improvement of water quality	A,B,C,D,G,I,J
5. Reduction of water consumption by 50%	
6. Increase of steelhead trout habitat 800%	
7. Sand dune communities	C, I, J, K
8. Preservation of species diversity	
9. Preservation of wildlife corridors	
10. Ensure persistence of large carnivores in large habitat	
11. Reduction of non point pollution	A, H, I, K
12. Completion of Natural Community Conservation Plans (NCCP's) Orange County	
13. Protection of all coastal sage scrub natural communities	
14. Elimination or reduction of sprawl development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Increase open space mitigation requirement to 60-80% – Maintain habitat 	I
15. Reduction of auto traffic	L, N
16. Mitigation of urban heat island effect	
17. Increase number of inner city parks & open space	
18. Natural park within 5 miles of residences	
19. Address erosion/road drain restoration/re-engineering	
20. Creation of watershed based political boundaries	
21. General Management Plan (GMP) to include open space strategies	
22. Statewide consistencies in land use policy	
Strategies	
A. Create model stream ordinance	M. Support for mitigation compliance/ incentives/ public relations
B. Institute water mitigation mechanism to protect habitat, improve quality & management	N. Environmental/public education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Personal responsibility ethic
C. New & additional mitigation for waterfront & development (port funding)	O. Encourage small land owner habitat restoration
D. Constructed wetlands	P. Develop alternative stewardship models
E. Planning based on sub-watersheds/ drainage areas	Q. Non-Governmental Org. management of parks
F. Establish ordinance to limit impervious surfaces to 10%	R. Encourage local/ coop/ farmers markets as food sources
G. Restoration	S. Encourage crops that use less imported water
H. Management	T. Support & education for continued agricultural use
I. Acquire habitat	U. Educate landowners on proper care for domestic livestock to prevent large carnivore predation
J. Legislation/ regulation	V. Make urban areas more livable <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Parks/ open space/ revitalization
K. Tax incentives for land acquisition	W. Promote infill/ prop 4
L. Incentives for local level conservation	

⁵. Strategies are keyed to priorities if the breakout discussion group identified particular strategies to address the noted priorities. However, if no strategies are indicated, this does not mean that none of the given strategies are applicable; rather, this only reflects that the group discussion did not focus on correspondence between priorities and strategies.

COASTAL LOS ANGELES (CONTINUED)

Summary of Strategies

- I. Protect Coastal Wetlands
 - Tidelands
 - Sand dunes
- II. Preserve Corridors
 - Wildlife corridors
 - Riparian zones
- III. Reduce Sprawl Rate
 - Complete Natural Community Conservation Plans (NCCP's)
 - Protect Sage Scrub natural community
- IV. Increase quality of urban life:
 - Increase: parks/ open space, infill, revitalization
 - Decrease: urban heat island effects, auto traffic

Overall Summary

- I. Identify conservation objectives & mobilize to achieve the multiple benefits to be derived from various projects
- II. Assemble agencies that represent multiple benefits & facilitate their funding of the various projects (Any entity could take lead/ support role)
- III. Encourage and provide training for government agencies to develop multi-purpose, multi-benefit partnerships to plan, fund, implement, monitor, and manage these conservation projects

Summary of Strategies

- I. Promote infill; make urban areas more livable through revitalization (prop 46)
- II. More effective mitigation through model stream ordinances; additional mitigation options for waterfront development (incentives-funding)
- III. Public education
 - Small landowner habitat restoration/native species
 - Large landowner predation prevention
 - Personal responsibility ethic
- IV. Increase tax incentives for land acquisitions

2. PRIORITIES AND STRATEGIES FOR INLAND LOS ANGELES

Priorities

1. Protect the headwaters of the Santa Clara River
2. Preserve cultural, historic, and archaeological resources
3. Preserve scenic values and viewsheds
4. Preserve habitat diversity

Investments

1. Restoration
2. Stewardship
3. Easements
4. Acquisition
5. Best Management Practices (BMP's)

Strategies

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Create multi-objective projects, thereby increasing available opportunities B. Protect upper portions of watersheds and riparian zones C. Connect open space (recreation and wildlife corridors) D. Create a sense of a land ethic E. Conduct education and outreach F. Increase open space to meet national minimum standard G. Improve buffering at urban-open space interface H. Acquisition I. Funding partnerships for acquisition and management J. Establish Best Management Practices (BMP's) for public & private landowners (through ordinances, education, outreach) K. Zoning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Hillslope ordinances – Flood plain protection – Density restriction – Moratoriums – Urban limit lines – Community plans – Transfer of development rights – Sensitive Environmental Areas (SEA's) L. Establish benefit assessment districts (raising funds) M. Active mitigation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Enact accountability measures – Monitor offers to dedicate N. Proactive conservation conditions on project approval and rights of way | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> O. Education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Public meetings – Model projects for Best Management Practices (BMP's) – Manuals (e.g. "living lightly"- Malibu Creek) – Project development workshops directed at conservation & integration of multiple objectives P. Incentive programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Tax credits – Rebates – Technical and capital assistance Q. Conservation easements R. Outreach to and formation of stakeholder groups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Watershed management groups – Bureau of Indian Affairs – Council of Governments (COG's) S. Regional coordination of development targeted at preserving open space and habitat linkages T. Mitigation banks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Require removal of regulatory red-tape – Need adequate staffing – Should trade "apples for apples" – Suggestion: market-based approach, within agreed-upon conservation plan U. Habitat Conservation Plans (HCP's) & Natural Community Conservation Plans (NCCP's) V. Joint open space use (e.g. schools, utility easements; flood easements, brown fields) W. Full use of school facilities as community and open space facilities X. Require developments to create buffers for fuel modification zones using local native plant species; consultation with fire department and open space agency on selection of home sites to minimize impacts on resources |
|---|---|

3. PRIORITIES AND STRATEGIES FOR ORANGE COUNTY

Priorities

6. Puente Chino Hills
7. Former oil fields
8. Development
9. Endangered species

Strategies

- A. Acquisition 1031 Exchanges: trading land of equal value for land of equal value in another location
 - Used by Federal/ State/ Developers
 - Too expensive for small group
 - Need advocate at the State Level
- B. SB 1657: tax credit for large landowner to donate for conservation purposes (Heritage Tax Bill)
 - Needs to be funded
- C. Mitigation for Landfill: Tipping fee: \$1/ ton of trash to landfill authority towards purchase of land
 - Very successful
 - Orange Co. doesn't realize the full potential
- D. Bond Act: 1990 Local Bond Act in Laguna Beach (\$10 M); County matched
 - Magnet effect; generated more money
 - Economic benefits analysis was key; convinced folks that their property values would go up; Monrovia did the same thing in 2000
- E. HCP (Habitat Conservation Plan):
 - Requires strong informed staff & public
 - Questionable success
- F. Outright dedication:
 - Irvine company donated 11,000 acres Nov. 2001 for no NCCP credit (rare)
- G. Federal Legislation: RRPI (Readiness and Range Preservation Initiative) allows Dept. of Defense to partner [with the county through the] General Plan
 - Legislation that establishes registry to monitor conservation acquisitions & mitigation through escrow.
 - Gaps:
 - No enforcement to comply with general plans
 - No regulation to follow through with General Plan
- H. CEQA (CA Environmental Quality Act):
 - Add follow-up step to CEQA document to secure commitment
 - Required course for planners on CEQA; Planners also need to know what planning tools are available for conservation
 - Enforcement of CEQA has failed
- I. Education:
 - Educate those in a position of influence
- J. JPA (Joint Powers Authority):
 - Work Great! Provide backbone
- K. Watershed approach (as currently implemented):
 - Not successful
 - Multiple jurisdictions in the regulatory process & competing interests
 - Solution: use watersheds as an organizing principle; streamline regulatory process
- L. Military Bases: Look for opportunities to conserve and learn from past experiences
 - Pendleton:
 - Example of successful planning; 126,000 acres
 - El Toro:
 - Political battles resulted in lost opportunities
 - Citizens initiative to change General Plan 1031 would have worked well here
 - Create sustainable communities to prevent sprawl
 - Incentives for decision makers to develop an economy that reduces commute
- M. ADT (Average Daily Trips) Credits:
 - Estimated mileage to be driven within a development (ADT) is assigned a credit value
 - These credits can be bought & sold among developers (works similar to other pollution credits, such that "smart growth" developments use less ADT credits & can sell them to other developers)...
 - Carbon sequestration
 - Incentives for the public/ individual level

4. PRIORITIES AND STRATEGIES FOR VENTURA COUNTY

Priorities	Strategies Addressing this Priority ⁶
1. Preserve irrigated farmland to sustain the agricultural economy	A, B, C, D, E, F, N, S, V, W, X, Z, AA, BB, CC, DD, EE, FF, GG
2. Maintain quality of life	G, H, I, J, N, S, V, W, X, Z, AA, BB, CC, DD, EE, FF, GG
3. Improve coastal water quality	K, L, N, S, V, W, X, Z, AA, BB, CC, DD, EE, FF, GG
4. Stabilize beaches	N, S, V, W, X, Z, AA, BB, CC, DD, EE, FF, GG
5. Preserve military sites <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Point Mugu – Port Hueneme 	M, N, S, V, W, X, Z, AA, BB, CC, DD, EE, FF, GG
6. Restore anadromous fish habitat/ populations	N, P, Q, R, S, U, V, W, X, Z, AA, BB, CC, DD, EE, FF, GG
7. Maintain and establish wildlife preserves	N, R, S, V, W, X, Z, AA, BB, CC, DD, EE, FF, GG
8. Restore and protect all watersheds <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Ventura – Malibu – Santa Clara – Calleguas 	N, O, S, U, V, W, X, Y, Z, AA, BB, CC, DD, EE, FF, GG
9. Sustain healthy & protected wildlife lands; Los Padres to coast	N, R, S, V, W, X, Z, AA, BB, CC, DD, EE, FF, GG
10. Preserve network of viable protected ecosystems	N, S, V, W, X, Z, AA, BB, CC, DD, EE, FF, GG
11. Preserve wildlife linkages	N, S, V, W, X, Z, AA, BB, CC, DD, EE, FF, GG
12. Acquire large threatened lands <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – For large mammals, air quality, raptors, etc. 	N, S, V, W, X, Z, AA, BB, CC, DD, EE, FF, GG

Strategies

A. Conservation easements	Q. Restore estuary/ in stream habitat
B. Williamson Act	R. Remove exotic invasive species
C. Dedicated local funding source to leverage other funds	S. Acquisition & management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The Nature Conservancy – National Park Service
D. SOAR (Save Open-Space and Agriculture Resources) [initiative implementation]	T. Urban sprawl prevention; land use policy
E. Viable agricultural & high tech local economy	U. Permit no concrete in waterways
F. Employment strategy for agriculture & high tech	V. Interagency coordination
G. Adequate housing supply	W. Formalized collaborative groups
H. Integrated housing strategy	X. Re-energize Ventura COG (Council of Government)
I. Separate urban areas with open space; open space district	Y. Watershed focus for agencies
J. Farm buffer land	Z. Public outreach/ education
K. Beacon (Beach Erosion Authority for Control, Operations, & Nourishment, state program)	AA. Park bond money from the State
L. Resource & master plans	BB. Federal funds
M. California Defense Retention Council	CC. Local funds
N. Acquire and integrate lands <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Local landowners donate or sell 	DD. Donation incentives for private property owners
O. Voluntary watershed groups	EE. TDR's (Transfer of Development Rights) across jurisdictions
P. Remove migration barriers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Matilija Dam – Army Corps / BLM/ County 	FF. Increase density in urban core for preservation
	GG. Tax sharing incentives

⁶. Strategies are keyed to priorities if the breakout discussion group identified particular strategies to address the noted priorities. However, if no strategies are indicated, this does not mean that none of the given strategies are applicable; rather, this only reflects that the group discussion did not focus on correspondence between priorities and strategies.

Regional Themes (Ventura County cont'd)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. <u>Sustainability</u> II. <u>Need for Money</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Access – Collaboration III. <u>Collaboration/ Information sharing</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Citizen based – Public/ private – Landowners | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> IV. <u>How and where you grow/ growth management and land use planning</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Sprawl prevention – Regional planning [COG (Council of Government), Open Space District, Regional Civic Alliance] – What is the State's role? |
|--|---|

5. PRIORITIES AND STRATEGIES FOR INLAND REGION (SAN BERNADINO CO./ WEST RIVERSIDE CO.)

Priorities	Strategies Addressing this Priority ⁷
1. Santa Ana River State Park	A
2. Improved water quality and quantity	B
3. Economic and resources sustainability	C
4. Agricultural land preservation	D
5. Recovery of threatened & endangered species	E
6. Open space acquisition along San Gabriel foothill corridor	F
7. Decrease regional air pollution & atmospheric deposition of nitrogen	G
8. Resource-based cross-jurisdictional planning	H
9. Open space acquisition	I
10. Open space connectivity for species & humans	J
11. Growth management, & smart growth	K
12. Protect & restore streams, drainages, & wetlands	L
13. Decrease urban run-off	M
14. Conservation of sensitive species	N

Strategies	
A. Working cooperatively with three counties & state conservancy	G. Inter-jurisdictional cooperation
B. Integrated planning across entities & development of new partnerships	H. JPA (Joint Powers Authority)
C. Cost sharing – information strategy exchange with others	I. Increased funding (link acquisition funding to management)
D. Fee title acquisition by agricultural land trust	J. Subregional integrated planning across types of open space
E. Implementing recovery strategies & multi-species conservation plans	K. Integrated planning & density increases <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Learn from “good” development strategies
F. Fee title acquisition; non-traditional partnerships and institutional courage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – i.e. San Gabriel alluvial fan Conceptual Area Protection Plan (CAPP) 	L. Amend county general plan for flood control
	M. Better irrigation practices, permeable pavement, capturing rainfall
	N. Conservation strategies on multi-species basis

Cross Cutting Regional Themes

- I. Santa Ana River Watershed Conservancy
- II. San Bernadino/ Riverside/ Orange County lots of grass roots support, piecemeal institutional support; state can help integrated planning
- III. A lot can be done locally with State assistance, e.g. non-governmental conservancy
- IV. Mixed success with Joint Powers Authorities (JPA's)
- V. Integration of: Resources, Jurisdictions, Non-governmental stakeholders, Funding

⁷. This break-out group structured their discussion to tie each priority with one specific strategy.

III. INFORMATION EXCHANGE



An equally important component of the Spotlight on Conservation workshop was the Information Exchange. This is where the Legacy Project displayed existing datasets on regional and statewide maps and gathered information on existing regional conservation plans and priorities from the participants. Participants had several opportunities over the day and a half workshop to view the mapped information, interact with staff, and, most importantly, to provide Legacy with valuable data, feedback, and ideas on conservation.

STATION RESULTS

In **The Data Walk** portion of the Information Exchange, regional and statewide maps displayed existing datasets of natural resources, working landscapes, and urban growth projections (such as land cover, impaired waterways, etc). Legacy staff members were available to talk about the different maps. Participants were directed to tell us what data might be incorrect and what additional information was needed to help them do their jobs better. Participants noted available data that was not on the maps and alerted us to incorrect classifications of land ownership; others expressed the desire for

finer data resolution. For details on participant comments, see Appendix B. At the **Data Catalogs** station participants were asked, “Are there key restoration and monitoring projects not on the data base?” The station included **The Natural Resource Project Inventory (NRPI)**, which collected information on 18 new projects and datasets being conducted in the region, largely focused on watershed and riparian restoration projects. **CERES** staff fielded questions about the data walk and provided a way for participants to add “data about regional data” to the online CERES data catalogue.

The **Monitoring Project** station was designed to solicit feedback from regional scientists about resource inventory, monitoring, and assessment projects and the types of data and indicators used locally to determine ecosystem condition or restoration success. As in previous workshops, the audience encompassed a wide range of stakeholders, and only a limited number of project scientists had information about monitoring activities. However the feedback received was valuable.

The **Urban Growth Model** displayed projections of population growth distribution and urban/ suburban development in the region. This station garnered great interest because participants visually witnessed possible future urban growth scenarios and how they change with different assumptions or constraints on growth.

Many participants stopped to visit the **Demo Decision Support Tools Station** staffed by ESRI employees. They demonstrated basic and advanced concepts in GIS applications and green mapping.

Participants contributed information about **Existing and Emerging Conservation Plans** and **Private Land Stewardship Projects**, as well as about places that they considered to be **Regional and Statewide Conservation Priorities**. Their input is recorded on the maps that follow.

“NORTH” SOUTH COAST EXISTING AND EMERGING CONSERVATION PLANNING EFFORTS

Participants were asked “*Are there existing or emerging conservation plans in the region that aren’t currently on Legacy’s maps? Why are they important?*”

Fifty-five conservation planning efforts were identified, with some efforts transecting private, city, and county jurisdictions. The dot numbers on the map below are keyed to the subsequent table, which gives information about each plan, such as name of effort, purpose, and the source of information.

Of the conservation efforts identified, most addressed more than one type of resource. Twenty-nine of the 55 programs (53%) dealt with some aspect of Aquatic Biodiversity. Many of these plans focused on management and restoration of freshwater systems, and nine watershed-based plans were identified. An equal number of the programs (53%) dealt with preservation of Urban Open Space. Slightly fewer of the programs (49%) addressed Terrestrial Biodiversity, with several focused on protecting sensitive species’ habitat. Less than 20% of the plans addressed Rural Recreation or Working Landscapes.

Restoration was cited as an important goal for ten of the conservation efforts identified. Six of the programs focused on improved use of legislation and planning, especially cooperative and inter-jurisdictional planning.

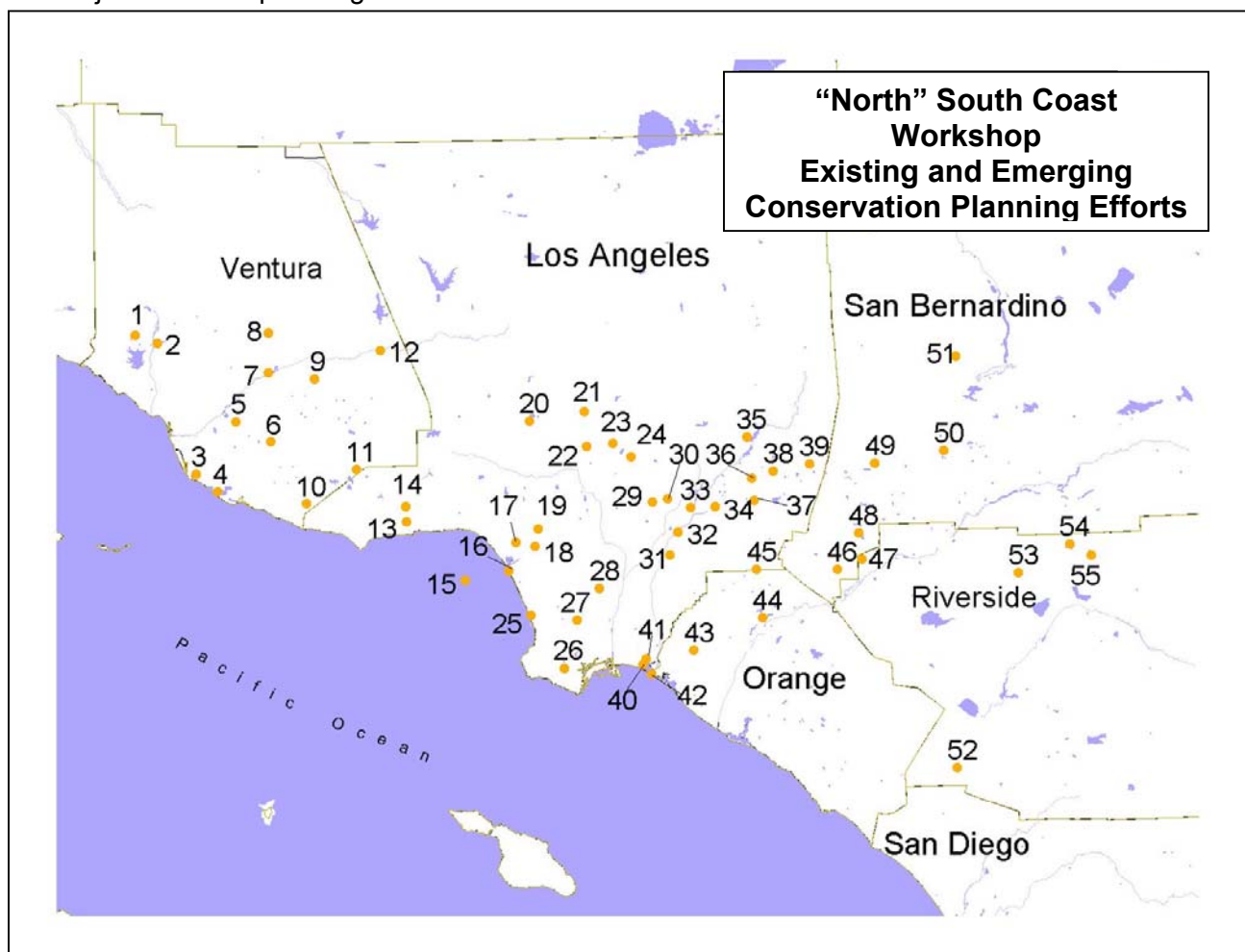


Figure 2. Locations of Existing and Emerging Conservation Planning Efforts identified by workshop participants for the “North” South Coast region.

Table 2: Conservation Planning Efforts (CPE's) identified by workshop participants for the "North" South Coast region.

AB = aquatic biodiversity, watershed including water issues
 TB = terrestrial biodiversity, habitat
 WL = working landscapes
 US = urban open space
 RR = rural recreation lands

Dot	Name/ Location	Type of Resource(s) Addressed	County	Primary Purpose	Source of Information ⁸
1	Matilija Dam Ecosystem Restoration Feasibility Study	AB, TB, RR	Ventura	Army Corp of Engineers/ Co. of Ventura assessing alternatives for addressing potential removal of dam to restore creek	Jeff Pratt/ Co. of Ventura, Flood Control
2	Ventura River Parkway		Ventura		Peter Brand/ Coastal Conservancy
3	Ormond Beach Wetland Restoration Feasibility Plan		Ventura		Peter Brand/ Coastal Conservancy
4	Point Mugu Naval Base, Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan	AB, WL	Ventura	Integrate management of natural resources with mission of military	Ron Dow/ Ventura Co. Naval Base
5	Saving Open Space & Agricultural Resources (SOAR) [Initiative implementation]	US	Ventura	Stop urban sprawl. Requires voter approval before open space or ag land can be urbanized & voter-approved urban boundaries around 8 cities	County Supervisor Linda Parks
6	Calleguas Watershed Wetland Restoration Plan		Ventura		Peter Brand/ Coastal Conservancy
7	Santa Clara River Restoration Feasibility Study		Ventura		Peter Brand/ Coastal Conservancy
8	Ventura Co. Open Space District		Ventura	Protect ag land, open space & recreation lands by establishing an open space district	Gene Kjellberg/ Ventura Co. Planning Department
9	Los Angeles - Ventura Project, Santa Clara River & Santa Susana Mountains	AB, TB	Ventura	Habitat preservation and restoration	E.J. Remson/ The Nature Conservancy
10	Land Protection Plan, Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area	TB, US	Los Angeles/ Ventura	Develop criteria and make GIS techniques operational for identification of significant lands in need of protection	Raymond Sauvajot/ Santa Monica Mtns. Nat'l Rec Area
11	Conejo Open Space Conservation Area Management Plan (COSCA)	RR	Ventura	Buffer, conservation, recreation. COSCA is Joint Powers Authority between City of Thousand Oaks & Conejo Recreation & Park District	Mark Townsend/ City of Thousand Oaks
12	Santa Clara River Enhancement and Mitigation Plan	AB, TB, WL, US,	Los Angeles / Ventura	Preserve Santa Clara River as a natural, functioning river	Denise Steurer/ US Fish & Wildlife Service
13	Watershed Management Area Plan for the Malibu Creek Watershed 2001	AB, TB, WL, US	Los Angeles/ Ventura	Emerging/ draft document taking a watershed approach, addressing natural resource assessment, land use planning, public & stakeholder involvement.	Barbara Cameron/ City of Malibu
14	Malibu Creek		Los Angeles	Preservation of creek (85% un-urbanized) biodiversity & water quality	Heal the Bay

8. Source of information only. Does not necessarily represent a formal priority of organization.

Table 2 cont'd.

Dot	Name/ Location	Type of Resource(s) Addressed	County	Primary Purpose	Source of Information ⁸
15	Santa Monica Bay Restoration Project	AB, TB, WL, US, RR	Los Angeles/ Ventura	Habitat and resource restoration, water quality improvement, public health protection	Marianne Yamaguchi/ Santa Monica Bay Restoration Proj.
16	Ballona Wetlands Restoration Project	AB	Los Angeles	Restore degraded wetlands in Ballona Creek Watershed	Wendy Rains/ Ballona Wetlands Foundation
17	Ballona Creek	AB, TB, US	Los Angeles	Watershed Management Plan	Jessica Dominguez/ LA Public Works
18	Baldwin Hills Conservancy Master Plan	US	Los Angeles	Preserve and restore urban open space	David McNeill/ Baldwin Hills Conservancy
19	Ballona Creek and Trail Study	AB, TB, US	Los Angeles	Improve habitat and open space along Ballona Creek	Culver City Planning
20	Tujunga Wash Restoration Framework	AB	Los Angeles	Multi-objective retrofit of sub-watershed for increased water supply; flood protection; habitat restoration; open space; water quality (Total Maximum Daily Load); recreation	Melanie Winter/ The River Project
21	Sun Valley Watershed Management Plan	US	Los Angeles	Flood control via multi purpose projects (habitat, recreation, etc.)	Michael Drennan/ MWH
22	Oak Walnut Woodlands of Glendale	TB, US	Los Angeles	Conserve oak/ walnut woodland, with oaks being the primary conservation priority	Marc Stirckivant/ V.O.I.C.E.
23	44th Assembly District Greenprinting	TB	Los Angeles	A Legacy-like planning effort to identify hillside conservation priorities in Assemblywoman Carol Liu's 44th Assembly District. GIS map will be product, to be housed and updated by Mt. San Antonio College	Jennifer Hranilovich/ The Trust for Public Land
24	The Arroyo Seco Watershed Habitat Restoration Study	AB, TB, US	Los Angeles	To gather data for future restoration efforts. Considering daylighting tributaries, creating a parkway/ bikeway. Assessed feasibility of restoring watershed for multiple benefits including water resources, stream naturalization, habitat & recreation.	Jennifer Hranilovich/ The Trust for Public Land
25	Beach Bluffs Restoration Project Redondo	TB	Los Angeles	Restore Beach Bluffs to primarily native state; e.g. eradicate non-native vegetation, retard erosion, enhance habitat for endangered species (Palos Verdes blue butterfly); use for education; open space value	Daniel Knapp/ LA Conservation Corp
26	Rancho Palos Verdes Natural Community Conservation Plan	TB, US	Los Angeles	To identify areas in the peninsula for conservation to protect threatened and endangered species (gnatcatcher population, etc)	Jennifer Hranilovich/ The Trust for Public Land
27	Dominguez Channel Water Management Plan	AB	Los Angeles	Protect water quality	LA Public Works
28	Compton Creek	US	Los Angeles	Reduce trash and improve water quality (emerging plan)	LA & San Gabriel Rivers & Watershed Council
29	Santa Fe Dam Recreation Area Nature Center Revitalization	AB, TB, WL, US, RR	Los Angeles	Education, outreach & programming related to water quality, watershed, & habitat	Ann Croissant/ San Gabriel Mtn.s Regional Conservancy
30	Rio Hondo Watershed Plan	AB, TB, US	Los Angeles	Improve water quality	Nick Conway

⁸. Source of information only. Does not necessarily represent a formal priority of organization.

Table 2 cont'd.

Dot	Name/ Location	Type of Resource(s) Addressed	County	Primary Purpose	Source of Information ⁸
31	Rivers and Mountains Conservancy Open Space Plan	AB, TB, US	Los Angeles	Develop guidelines and strategies for open space, habitat, & watershed protection	Belinda Faustinos/Rivers & Mtns. Conservancy
32	Arundo Removal and Restoration	AB	Los Angeles	Removal of invasive species Arundo donax	Ann Croissant/ San Gabriel Mtn.s Regional Conservancy
33	Foothills Corridor Land Acquisition and Restoration Strategy	AB, TB, US, RR	Los Angeles	Habitat protection & restoration; fire safety; minimize urban encroachment; watershed protection; possibly recreation	Ann Croissant/ San Gabriel Mtn.s Regional Conservancy
34	Upper San Gabriel River Watershed Management Plan	AB, US, RR	Los Angeles	Watershed Management Plan, focused on water quality issues for current phase	Eileen Takata/ North East Trees
35	San Gabriel Master Plan	AB, TB, US, RR	Los Angeles/ Orange	Habitat, recreation, open space, preservations of flood control functions	Scott Schales/ LA Co. Public Works, Watershed Div.
36	Watershed Management Plan for 3 sub-watersheds of San Gabriel River (above Whittier Narrows): Upper San Gabriel, Walnut Creek, & San Jose Creek	AB, TB, WL, US, RR	Los Angeles	Water quality and beneficial uses as defined by the LA Regional Water Quality Control Board	Rick Thomas/ South Coast Wildlands Proj.
37	Project Connect: Restoring the Creek-Community connection in the City of Covina	AB, TB, US	Los Angeles	Water quality; habitat restoration; urban-habitat relationship improvement; urban run-off reduction	Rick Thomas/ South Coast Wildlands Proj.
38	Little Dalton Canyon Environmental Discovery Center and Stables	AB, TB, WL, US, RR	Los Angeles	Environmental education and demonstration site; water quality enhancement/ stables demo; habitat restoration; open space preservation	Rick Thomas/ South Coast Wildlands Proj.
39	North Claremont CAPP	TB, US	Los Angeles	To identify parcels for acquisition in order to protect threatened & endangered species, & create a connection between Claremont Wilderness Park & Marshall Cyn (Co.) Regional Park	Jennifer Hranilovich/ The Trust for Public Land
40	Colorado Lagoon, Long Beach	AB, US, RR	Los Angeles	Restore & protect	John Bradley/Seal Beach Nat'l Wildlife Refuge
41	Los Cerritos Wetlands Task Force	AB, US	Los Angeles	Acquisition, preservation, & enhancement of the salt water marsh at the San Gabriel River Mouth	Don May/ Long Beach Task Force
42	Integrated Natural Resource Management Seal Beach National Wildlife Refuge, Anaheim Bay	AB, WL	Orange	Conservation of endangered species & salt marsh	John Bradley/Seal Beach Nat'l Wildlife Refuge
43	Coyote Creek Management Plan	AB, TB, US	Orange	First attempt at an integrated plan (cross-jurisdictional) for Orange & LA Co.'s	Kathie Matsuyama/ Orange Co. Coastal & Watershed Div.
44	Santa Ana River Integrated Watershed Plan		Orange/ Riverside/ San Bernardino		Jeff Beehler/Santa Anna Watershed Proj. Auth.
45	Acquisition of the Missing Middle, San Gabriel/ Lower LA River Watershed/ Tonner Creek	TB, US	Orange/ Los Angeles	Preservation of 6000 acres that would protect the only wildlife corridor between the Puente Hills & Chino Hills	Melanie Schlotterbeck/ Cal Stae Fullerton
46	City of Chino General Plan Amendment	TB, WL, US,	San Bernardino	Conservation of buffer zone to Prado Basin, connection to Chino Hills State Park	Enrique Arroyo/ DPR

⁸. Source of information only. Does not necessarily represent a formal priority of organization.

Table 2 cont'd.

Dot	Name/ Location	Type of Resource(s) Addressed	County	Primary Purpose	Source of Information ⁸
47	Chino Valley Agricultural / Open Space Strategic Land Plan	WL, US	San Bernardino	Long range use and expansion/ consolidation of ag/ open space land	Chuck Hale/ So. CA Ag. Land Foundation
48	City of Ontario rezoning agriculture to residential		San Bernardino	Conservation of habitat	Dan Silver/ EHL
49	San Gabriel Fan Draft Conceptual Area Protection Plan (CAPP)	AB, TB, US	Los Angeles/ San Bernardino	Identify parcels for acquisition to protect threatened & endangered species and rare alluvial fan sage scrub habitat	Jennifer Hranilovich/ The Trust for Public Land
50	San Gabriel Foothills Conceptual Area Protection Plan (CAPP)		San Bernardino		
51	Southern California Forest Plans Revisions	AB, TB, RR	Los Angeles/ San Bernardino/ Ventura	Revise existing 4 Forest Plans and develop greater consistency in management	Ron Pugh/ Cleveland Nat'l Forest
52	Taylor Yard Multi-Objective Use	AB [US]	Los Angeles	Multi-objective project for both active & passive recreation; flood protection; water quality enhancement	Melanie Winter/ The River Project
53	Western Riverside Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP)		Riverside		Christy Lovelably/ Riverside City
54	San Timoteo Creek Watershed Plan Area		San Bernardino, Riverside		Lindell Marsh, Lisa Pierce/ San Timoteo Greenway Conservancy
55	San Timoteo State Park		Riverside		Peter Dangermond/ Dangermond Assoc.; Lisa Pierce/ San Timoteo Greenway Conservancy

⁸. Source of information only. Does not necessarily represent a formal priority of organization.

PRIVATE LAND STEWARDSHIP PROJECTS

Participants were asked to identify sites where private stewardship conservation projects are in place and have demonstrated success. The 11 identified stewardship efforts varied in focus and scope. Four of the sites included wetland habitats, and five focused on riparian areas. Restoration of aquatic systems and establishment of watershed and habitat connectivity were common aims. The Private Land Stewardship Projects identified at the “North” South Coast workshop differed from those identified in other regions in that they tended to be led by non-profit groups or agencies, rather than by landowners, and the focused on natural lands and restoration rather than on working lands. Again, this outcome reflects the low representation of landowners, farmers, and ranchers at the “North” South Coast workshop.

Table 3. Private Land Stewardship Projects identified by workshop participants for the “North” South Coast region.

Name of Area	County	Year initiated	Primary aim(s)	Primary landscapes, habitats, or ecosystems involved?	Funding	Source of Information	Organization
San Timoteo, Santa Ana Watershed Sub Basin	Riverside/ San Bernardino	2002	State Park Watershed Project, connectivity; land donation and acquisition; includes exotics removal	Watershed; Tuna Canyon, Santa Mateo Canyon	Yes, State Parks, Local, Regional	Lisa Pierre, Peter Dangermond	Riverside Land Conservancy, San Timoteo Canyon lands Coalition
Santa Ana Watershed	Riverside/ San Bernardino	2001	Removal of exotics in riparian areas; Arundo Removal Protocol; Southern California Integrated Watershed Program on Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority (SAWPA) web	Riparian	Yes, Prop 13	Jeff Beehler	Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority
Ormond Beach	Ventura/ San Diego/ Orange/ Los Angeles/ Santa Barbara		To create a functional wetland system; Wetlands Recovery Project	Degraded wetlands	Yes, CA Coastal Conservancy	Peter Brand, Roma Armbrust	Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project
Ventura, Santa Barbara County	Ventura/ Santa Barbara	2002	Create an integrated watershed education & stewardship program anchored on the Ventura River: service learning, public support for restoration	Coastal, wetland, riparian, montane	Yes, Sustainable Communities Leadership Program	Bobby Cochran	Summit to the Sea
Ojai Valley Wetlands, Ojai Meadows Preserve	Ventura	2000	Wetlands restoration, stewardship, education, flood management, habitat	Fault-sag wetland, grassland, vernal pools		Bobby Cochran	Summit to the Sea
County Wide	Ventura	2001	River restoration	Riparian & wetland		Paul Senkin	Matilija Coalition
Oak Glen, Los Rios Apple Ranch	San Bernardino	1994	Restore working apple ranch to function pesticide free, etc., protect viewsheds, watersheds & habitats	Oak woodland, apple orchards		David Myers	The Wildlands Conservancy
Pipes Canyon	San Bernardino	1998	Conservation & connection; restore Pipes Canyon watershed	Mountain, chaparral, desert			The Wildlands Conservancy

Table 3 cont'd.

Name of Area	County	Year initiated	Primary aim(s)	Primary landscapes, habitats, or ecosystems involved?	Funding	Source of Information	Organization
Cold Creek Preserve, Santa Monica Mountains	Los Angeles	1977	Protection & restoration of 1500 acres held by Mountains Restoration Trust; has led to stewardship on adjacent landowners'; keep Cold Creek as clean as possible; restoration & enhancement efforts with landowners in watershed; acquisition continues; making east to west connections between Topanga State Park and Malibu Creek State Park	Multi-habitat types	The Nature Conservancy provided original mix of acquisition funds; transferred property to Mountains Restoration Trust	Jo Kitz	Mountains Restoration Trust
Dominguez Watershed	Los Angeles		Watershed Management Plan (one of 19 pending or completed); Stewardship			Mary Loquvam	The Los Angeles & San Gabriel Rivers Watershed Council
Hedrick Nature Area	Ventura County	2001	Stewardship	River Flood Plain (Santa Clara)	Yes, Coastal Conservancy grant	Sandy Hedrick	Friends of the Santa Clara River

REGIONAL CONSERVATION PRIORITIES

At the regional conservation priorities station, participants were asked to identify the top 3 places and resources needing additional conservation attention in the region. The dots on the map below are keyed to the subsequent table, which gives information about each site, such as location, importance, and the source of information. Of the 89 locations identified, the Santa Clara River garnered the greatest attention. A total of six dots were assigned to the Santa Clara and its watershed, with dot placements ranging from locations on tributaries to the upper headwaters and main stem. Many of the other chosen areas centered on habitat linkages, water quality protection, and recreational value. Additional notable sites that were assigned at least 3 dots included the Santa Susana Mountains, Chino Hills, Ballona Wetlands and Creek, Tujunga Wash, and Ventura Hills and River. Participants mentioned land acquisition as a needed action 38 times (more often than anything else), indicating that acquisition is seen to be an essential conservation tool regionally. Other recommendations for needed actions included planning (mentioned 14 times), restoration (mentioned 10 times), and easements (mentioned 8 times).

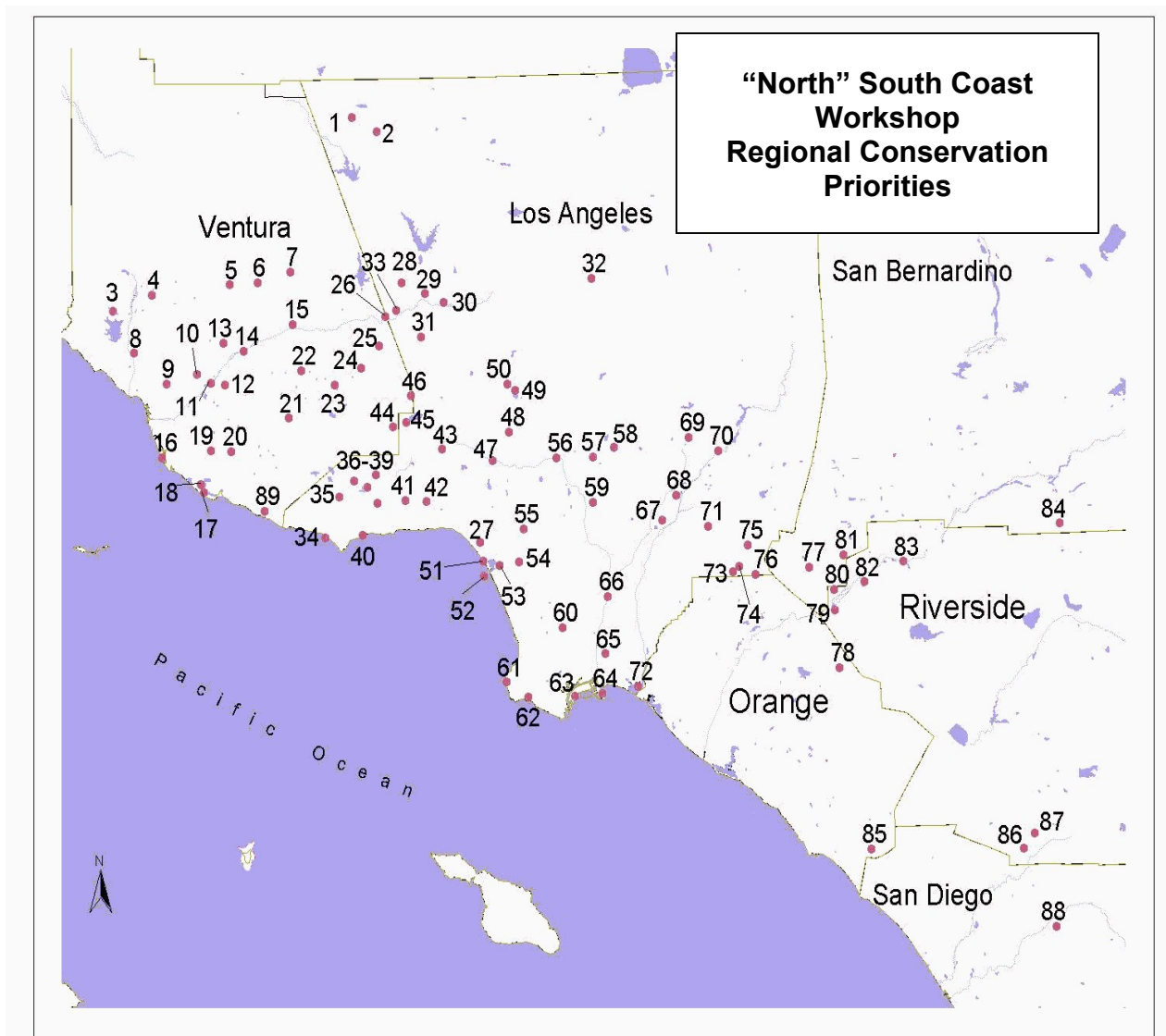


Figure 3. Locations of Regional Conservation Priorities identified by workshop participants for the “North” South Coast region.

Table 4. Regional Conservation Priorities identified by workshop participants for the “North” South Coast region.

Dot	Location	County	Importance	Needed Action	Source of Information/ Affiliation ⁹	Existing Effort for the Location
1	Golman Area	Los Angeles	Bunchgrass/ wildflowers		Joe Decruyenaere/ LA Co. Regional Planning	Significant Ecological Area (SEA)
2	Tejon Linkage	Los Angeles/ Kern	Link Los Padres and Southern Sierra; high importance	Planning & protection of corridor	E.J. Remson/ The Nature Conservancy	None
3	Lake Casitas Open Space	Ventura	Habitat; water quality; open space; education	Restoration & management with education	Bobby Cochran/ Summit to Sea	Bureau of Rec. Resource Management Plan
4	Ojai Valley	Ventura	Fault sag wetlands	Restoration/ protection	Bobby Cochran/ Summit to Sea	Uncertain
5	Ventura County	Ventura	Agricultural resources	Establish an Open Space District	Gene Kjellberg/ Ventura Co. Planning Department	Emerging Open Space District
6	Ventura County	Ventura	Ecological sensitive lands	Establish an Open Space District	Gene Kjellberg/ Ventura Co. Planning Department	
7	Ventura County	Ventura	Recreation	Establish an Open Space District	Gene Kjellberg/ Ventura Co. Planning Department	
8	Ventura River	Ventura	Steelhead habitat, dam removal; Arundo removal; water supply; water quality	Restoration; open space acquisition; planning; education	Bobby Cochran/ Summit to Sea	Uncertain
9	Ventura Hills	Ventura	Habitat, recreation, linkage	Acquisition & easement	Gene Kjellberg/ Ventura Co. Planning Department	
10	Ventura River	Ventura	Steelhead/ dam issues, riparian values	Study	Roma Armbrust/ Ventura Co. Wetlands Task Force	Uncertain
11	South Mountain	Ventura	Habitat linkage; viewshed	Protection	Gene Kjellberg/ Ventura Co. Planning Dept	Ventura Open Space District
12	South Mountain	Ventura	High importance	Coastal sage scrub	E.J. Remson/ The Nature Conservancy	None
13	Ventura River	Ventura	Steelhead/ dam issues; riparian values	Education pilot project	Roma Armbrust/ Ventura Co. Wetlands Task Force	None
14	Santa Clara River	Ventura	Habitat restoration; flood management; need trails	Acquire and restore	Peter Brand/ Coastal Conservancy	Santa Clara River Parkway
15	Santa Clara River	Ventura	High importance	Protection of riparian habitat	E.J. Remson/ The Nature Conservancy	None
16	Ormond Beach	Ventura	Significant wetland ecosystem	Acquisition	Roma Armbrust/ Ventura Co. Wetlands Task Force	Coastal Conservancy
17	Ormond Beach Mugu Lagoon	Ventura	Habitat restoration (wetlands and grasslands)	Acquire and restore	Peter Brand/ Coastal Conservancy	Coastal Conservancy; Ormond Beach Wetland Rest.
18	Ventura County Game Preserve, Point Mugu Game Preserve	Ventura	Over-wintering water fowl and marsh birds	Conservation easement or fee opportunity for creation of extension for marshland and buffer for military		None

⁹. Source of information only. Does not necessarily represent a formal priority of organization.

Table 4 cont'd.

Dot	Location	County	Importance	Needed Action	Source of Information/ Affiliation ⁹	Existing Effort for the Location
19	Oxnard Plain Valley, Santa Clara Valley	Ventura	Farmlands (working landscapes)	Conservation easement	Gene Kjellberg/ Ventura Co. Planning Department	Emerging Open Space District
20	Oxnard Plain	Ventura	Farmland	Preserve as farmland		Save Open Space and Agricultural Resources (SOAR) [Initiative]
21	Calleguas Creek/ Watershed	Ventura	Habitat restoration; flood management; need trails	Acquire and restore floodplains	Peter Brand/ Coastal Conservancy	Calleguas Watershed Restoration Plan
22	Santa Susana Mountains	LA/ Ventura	Habitat; viewshed; recreation	Acquisition; planning; protection; restoration	Jennifer Hranilovich/ The Trust for Public Land	The Nature Conservancy
23	Alamos Canyon	Ventura	Highly critical and excellent condition corridor; slated for development!	Land acquisition and protection of wildlife corridor	Ray Sauvajot/ National Park Service	Uncertain
24	Big Sky Ranch	Ventura	Linkage	Acquisition	Gene Kjellberg/ Ventura Co. Planning Department	Ventura Co. Planning Department
25	Santa Susana Mountains	Ventura	High importance	Protection of woodlands & riparian habitat	E.J. Remson/ The Nature Conservancy	None
26	Santa Clara River watershed	Los Angeles/ Ventura	1,600 sq mi watershed; last open unchannelized river on South Coast	Watershed management plan, protection from development, drawing down of ground water	Mary Loquvam/ Wetland Recovery Project	Wetland Recovery Project, Nature Conservancy, Rivers & Mtns Conservancy
27	Ballona Wetlands	Los Angeles	One of last remaining coastal wetland in LA County	Acquisition; restoration	Dave McNeill/ Baldwin Hills Conservancy	Wetlands Recovery Project, Trust for Public Land
28	San Martinez Grande Canyon	Los Angeles	Relatively undisturbed canyon adjacent to National Forest	Conservation easement	Ileene Anderson/ CA Native Plant Society	None
29	Upper Santa Clara River	Los Angeles	Last unchannelized river in Los Angeles	Protection from channelization	Sabrina Drill/ U of CA Cooperative Extension- LA County	None
30	Upper Santa Clara River	Los Angeles	One of the last remaining wild rivers. (unchannelized) in the Co. & So. CA	Acquisition of land in private ownership	Melanie Winter/ The River Project	Santa Clara River Natural River Enhancement Area (SCRNEA)
31	Santa Susana Mountains	Los Angeles	Suite of sensitive species; undisturbed open space	Acquisition or conservation easement	Ileene Anderson/ CA Native Plant Society	None
32	Headwaters/ upper reaches of Santa Clara River	Los Angeles	Headwaters protection	Conservation easement or acquisition	Ileene Anderson/ CA Native Plant Society	
33	Northern San Gabriel Mountains	Los Angeles	High importance	Habitat Plan	Belinda Faustinos/ Rivers & Mtns. Conservancy	
34	Santa Monica Bay small coastal wetlands & lagoons	Los Angeles	Habitat	Acquisition (some) & restoration	Marianne Yamaguchi/ Santa Monica Bay Rest. Project	Santa Monica Bay Restoration Project
35	La Sierra Canyon, Watershed of Significant Ecological Area	Los Angeles	North-facing riparian and oak woodland; perennial stream	Acquire to protect diversity	Jo Kitz/ Mountains Restoration Trust	None

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Table 4 cont'd.

Dot	Location	County	Importance	Needed Action	Source of Information/ Affiliation ⁹	Existing Effort for the Location
36	Malibu Creek	Los Angeles	Steelhead habitat	Remove Rindge Dam	Sabrina Drill/ U of CA Cooperative Extension- LA County	So. CA Steelhead Recovery Coalition (SCSRC), Army Corps study/ State Coastal Conservancy/ State Parks
37	Upper Los Angeles River watershed	Los Angeles	Soft-bottomed historic landscape	Acquisition and restoration of riparian, wetland, and cultural resources	Jo Kitz/ Mountains Restoration Trust	Headwater Corners
38	Liberty Canyon between Cheeseboro Canyon and Malibu Creek S.P.	Los Angeles	One of two critical N-S links between Santa Monica Mountains and Simi Hills	Land acquisition and protection of wildlife corridor	Ray Sauvajot/ National Park Service	Uncertain
39	Santa Monica Mountains	Los Angeles	Biodiversity		Joe Decruyenaere/ LA County Regional Planning	Significant Ecological Area (SEA)
40	Santa Monica Mountains	Los Angeles	Connectivity	Obtain acquisition dollars	Keith Lenard/ Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy	Uncertain
41	Cold Creek Watershed	Los Angeles	East-west habitat linkage; diversity	Complete acquisitions of restoration plan	Jo Kitz/ Mountains Restoration Trust	Cold Creek Restoration Plan
42	Topanga Canyon	Los Angeles	Riparian zone	Natural areas		Santa Monica Mtns. Nat'l Rec. Area GDP
43	Pierce College	Los Angeles	Urban agriculture education	Support & partnership for acquisition	Melanie Winter/ The River Project	None
44	Simi Hills	Ventura	Habitat linkage; watershed	Protection	Gene Kjellberg/ Ventura Co. Planning Department	Santa Monica Mtns. Conservancy
45	Chatsworth Reservoir	Los Angeles	Natural Area	Preserve as a park	Department of Water and Power (DWP)	Uncertain
46	Santa Susana Pass	Ventura	Critical Link between Simi Hills & Santa Susana Mountains	Land acquisition and protection of wildlife corridor	Ray Sauvajot/ National Park Service	Uncertain
47	Los Angeles River Corridor (Studio City Golf & Tennis Tujunga Structure)	Los Angeles	Watershed protection; connectivity, cultural & historic, habitat	Acquisition & management through partnership	Melanie Winter/ The River Project	LARMP (Los Angeles River Master Plan)
48	Lower Tujunga Wash	Los Angeles	Water quality; habitat restoration	Acquisition of land in private ownership	Melanie Winter/ The River Project	SCC (State Coastal Conservancy) Feasibility Study
49	Tujunga Wash (upstream of 210 hwy)	Los Angeles	Critical habitat	Acquisition of land in private ownership	Melanie Winter/ The River Project	Many existing efforts
50	Tujunga Wash	Los Angeles	Last stand of alluvial sage scrub	Protection; acquisition	Sabrina Drill/ U of CA Cooperative Extension- LA County	
51	Ballona Wetlands	Los Angeles	Habitat	Acquisition (some) & restoration	Marianne Yamaguchi/ Santa Monica Bay Rest. Project	Santa Monica Bay Restoration Project
52	Santa Monica Bay	Los Angeles	Water quality	Address upstream non point source pollution		
53	Ballona Creek	Los Angeles	Water quality	Clean up; acquisition	Dave McNeill/ Baldwin Hills Conservancy	BC WTF (Ballona Creek Watershed Task Force)

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Table 4 cont'd.

Dot	Location	County	Importance	Needed Action	Source of Information/ Affiliation ⁹	Existing Effort for the Location
54	Baldwin Hills	Los Angeles	Last open space in region	Acquisition	Dave McNeill/ Baldwin Hills Conservancy	Baldwin Hills Master Plan
55	Baldwin Hills	Los Angeles	Urban open space	Obtain acquisition dollars	Keith Lenard/ Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy	Uncertain
56	Los Angeles and San Gabriel River	—	Water quality	Address upstream non point source pollution		
57	Verdugo Mountains to San Rafael Hills to San Gabriel Mountains Connection	Los Angeles	Habitat, viewshed, recreation	Protect habitat link between these three areas	Jennifer Hranilovich/ The Trust for Public Land	None
58	Arroyo Seco Browns Mtn. Dam	Los Angeles	Early & easy implementation	Implement exotics' plan	Scott Wilson/ North East Trees	Uncertain
59	Los Angeles Confluence	Los Angeles	World's worst design challenge under freeway	Interactive water art	Scott Wilson/ North East Trees	Uncertain
60	Dominguez, Watershed remnant wetland	Los Angeles	Remnant wetland in an intensely urbanized environment	Restoration		Dominguez Wtrshd Advisory Council (DWAC)
61	Santa Monica Bay rocky intertidal & dune habitat	Los Angeles	Habitat	Restoration & protection	Marianne Yamaguchi/ Santa Monica Bay Rest. Project	Santa Monica Bay Restoration Project
62	Portuguese Bend Regional Open Space Park	Los Angeles	Urban open space; endangered species habitat	Acquisition dollars	Keith Lenard/ Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy	NCCP (Natural Community Conservation Plan)
63	San Pedro Bay Estuary	Los Angeles	Tourism/ recreation	Stakeholder involvement	Joan Greenwood/ Targhee Inc.	San Pedro Bay Estuary Project
64	San Pedro Bay	—	Water quality	Address upstream non point source pollution		Dominguez Channel, LA & San Gabriel water groups
65	Lower Lower reach of Los Angeles River	Los Angeles	Environmental	Funding	Joan Greenwood/ Targhee Inc.	LA River Master Plan; City of Long Beach Open Space
66	Upper Lower reach of Los Angeles River	Los Angeles	Environmental justice	Integrate into Brownfields Pilot	Joan Greenwood/ Targhee Inc.	Uncertain
67	Whittier Narrows San Gabriel River	Los Angeles	Regional trail/ recreation resource	Acquisition of land; habitat restoration	Jeff Yann/ Sierra Club	San Gabriel Confluence Park
68	Rio Hondo - confluence of the San Jose Creek with San Gabriel just upstream of the Rio Hondo	Los Angeles	San Jose Creek Restoration; and Joint proposal North East Trees/ Sierra Club to plan Duck Farm development	Plan implementation	Scott Wilson/ North East Trees	Uncertain
69	San Gabriel Foothills	San Bernardino/ Los Angeles	Habitat, viewshed, recreation	Acquisition; planning; protection; restoration	Jennifer Hranilovich/ The Trust for Public Land	Portions are recognized, but not the whole area
70	San Gabriel Foothills	Los Angeles	High importance	Habitat Plan	Belinda Faustinos/ Rivers & Mtns. Conservancy	Rivers & Mtns. Conservancy
71	San Jose Foothills	Los Angeles	High importance	Habitat Plan	Belinda Faustinos/ Rivers & Mtns. Conservancy	

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Table 4 cont'd.

Dot	Location	County	Importance	Needed Action	Source of Information/ Affiliation ⁹	Existing Effort for the Location
72	Gravel Quarries	Los Angeles	Critical area of San Gabriel River; missing linkage	Multi-use study for gravel quarries	Jeff Yann/ Sierra Club	Uncertain
73	Puente Chino Hills	Los Angeles	Unprotected key segments of Puente Chino Hills wildlife corridor; "missing middle"	Money for acquisition of key parcels: Tonner Canyon, AERA development, Brea Hills	Jeff Yann/ Sierra Club	Puente Chino Hills Wildlife Corridor
74	Chino Hills	Los Angeles	Oaks/ Walnuts		Joe Decruyenaere/ LA County Regional Planning	Significant Ecological Area (SEA)
75	Both sides of 57 freeway north of Brea	Los Angeles/ Orange	Linkage of habitat	Purchase	Claire Schlotterbeck/ Hills for Everyone	Hills for Everyone
76	Tonner Canyon	Los Angeles/ Orange	Critical wildlife corridor	Land acquisition	Melanie Schlotterbeck/ Cal State Fullerton	Hills for Everyone
77	Puente Chino Hills	LA/ San Bernardino/ Riverside	High importance	Habitat Plan	Belinda Faustinos/ Rivers & Mtns. Conservancy	
78	Cleveland Nat'l Forest	Orange/ Riverside	Stop development of inholdings	Land acquisition	Melanie Schlotterbeck/ Cal State Fullerton	Trust for Public Land
79	Prado Basin & Chino Hills State Park	San Bernardino/ Orange	Habitat linkage	Purchase	Claire Schlotterbeck/ Hills for Everyone	State Parks
80	Prado Basin	San Bernardino/ Riverside	Urban development mitigation	Keep mitigation dollars with the Basin	Chuck Hale/ Inland Empire W. Resource Cons. District & S. CA Ag. Land Foundation	Uncertain
81	Chino Valley	San Bernardino	Urban edge	Farmland acquisition	Chuck Hale/ Inland Empire W. Resource Cons. District & S. CA Ag. Land Foundation	Uncertain
82	Santa Ana River watershed	San Bernardino/ Riverside	Drinking water for Orange County	Conservation; open space; acquisition	Chuck Hale/ Inland Empire W. Resource Cons. District & S. CA Ag. Land Foundation	Santa Anna Watershed Project Authority
83	Santa Ana River watershed		Water quality	Water quality protection	Lisa Pierce/ Redlands Institute, U. of Redlands, San Timoteo Canyonlands Coalition	
84	San Timoteo Watershed	San Bernardino/ Riverside		Land Acquisition	Lisa Pierce/ Redlands Institute, U. of Redlands, San Timoteo Canyonlands Coalition	
85	Rancho Mission Viejo	Orange	Biodiversity; intact costal watershed	Purchase; Natural Communities Conservation Plan	Claire Schlotterbeck/ Hills for Everyone	Heart & Soul Coalition
86	Pechanga Corridor	Riverside	Wildlife corridor connection Orange County to San Diego		Melanie Schlotterbeck/ Cal State Fullerton	Uncertain
87	Tenaja Wildlife Corridor	Riverside	High	Acquisition; easement	E.J. Remson/ The Nature Conservancy	The Nature Conservancy Tenaja Plan
88	San Luis Rey Hwy 76				Lisa Pierce/ Redlands Institute, U. of Redlands, San Timoteo Canyonlands Coalition	
89	South Ventura County Coast	Ventura	Coastal bluffs	Natural areas		Santa Monica Mtns. Nat'l Recreation Area

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STATEWIDE CONSERVATION PRIORITIES

At the statewide conservation priorities station, participants were asked to identify their top 3 areas for resources conservation in the state. Of the 86 locations identified, the central coast, including Big Sur and Hearst Ranch, was given the most attention, receiving 16 dots. Clusters also centered around areas north of Los Angeles, including the Santa Monica Mountains and Santa Susana Pass; the border of Riverside and San Bernadino counties, including the San Jacinto River and San Timoteo; and the region through Kern County from Tehachapi to the South Sierra. On a statewide basis, coastal access, habitat linkages, endangered and endemic species' protection, freshwater issues, and open space preservation were repeatedly cited as important concerns

It became clear that participants were keen on conservation priorities not only in their regional but in the statewide context as well. The areas identified by participants as statewide conservation priorities are shown below. The dots on the map below are keyed to the subsequent table, which gives information about each site, such as location, importance, and the source of information.

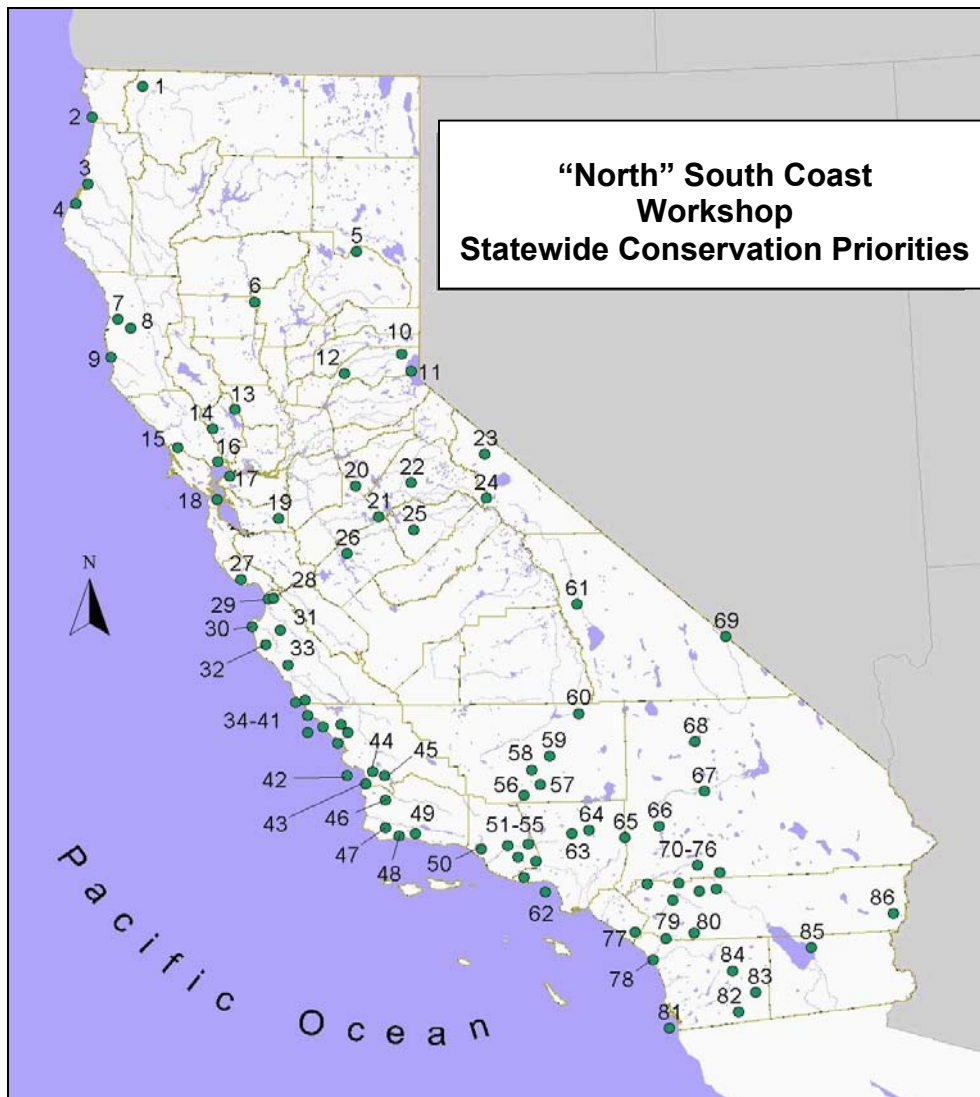


Figure 4. Locations of Statewide Conservation Priorities identified by workshop participants for the "North" South Coast region.

Table 5. Statewide Conservation Priorities identified by workshop participants for the “North” South Coast region.

Dot	Location	County	Importance	Needed Action	Source of Information/ Affiliation ¹⁰
1	Klamath River		Endangered & endemic fish	Fish & Wildlife Service	Sabrina Drill/ U of CA Cooperative Extension-LA County
2	Ferndale		Redwood habitat		Scott Wilson/ Northeast Trees
3	Redwoods, Turtle Bay		Preservation of awe inspiring resource		David McNeill/ Baldwin Hills Conservancy
4	Eel River			Habitat preservation; flood control	John Bradley/ Seal Beach Nat'l Wildlife Refuge
5	Plumas Forest		Habitat corridor; water supply		Bobby Cochran/ Summit to the Sea
6	Sacramento River, Red Bluff, Yuba, Sutter Butte		Preserve drainages	Habitat preservation; flood control	John Bradley/ Seal Beach Nat'l Wildlife Refuge
7	North Coast	Mendocino	Public land	More public coastal access	Fran Diamond/ LA Water Quality Coastal Board
8	Anderson Valley		Working landscapes		Frank Simpson/ River & Mountains Conservancy
9	Mendocino	Mendocino	Medium importance	River watershed protection	Lisa Pierce/ Redlands Institute, U. of Redlands, San Timoteo Canyonlands Coalition
10	Lake Tahoe		Water quality		Laura Shell/ Supervisor Yaroslavsky
11	Tahoe	Tahoe	Water		David McNeill/ Baldwin Hills Conservancy
12	Sierra Nevadas		Habitat & watershed protection	Protection from urban encroachment	M. Yamaguchi/ Santa Monica Bay Restoration Program
13	Lake Berryless	Yolk	Blue Ridge Habitat	Acquisition & easement funding	Kerry O' Tooled/ American Land Conservancy
14	Napa/ Sonoma		Threat of conversion to vineyards (mono crops)		
15	Marin	Marin	Sudden oak death		Joe Decruyenaere/ LA County Regional Planning
16	Bay Delta		Aquatic habitat, passive recreation		John Bradley/ Seal Beach Nat'l Wildlife Refuge
17	Bay Delta		Agricultural wetlands	Continued planning	Richard Beban/ Poet/ Journalist
18	San Francisco Bay	Multiple	Species diversity	Fisheries habitat improvement; water quality; re-introduction of native species; leveraging existing efforts	Val Chambers Nat'l Marine Fisheries Service /
19	Alameda	Alameda	Urban sprawl	Open space	Kerry O' Tooled/ American Land Conservancy
20	The Valley		Agriculture preservation in a responsible way	Continued production	Richard Beban/ Poet/ Journalist
21	Central Valley	San Joaquin/ Stanislaus/ Kern	Prime agricultural lands	Agriculture easements	M. Yamaguchi/ Santa Monica Bay Restoration Program
22	Yosemite		Yosemite		Doris LaCour/ Supervisor Burke

¹⁰. Source of information only. Does not necessarily represent a formal priority of organization.

Table 5 cont'd.

Dot	Location	County	Importance	Needed Action	Source of Information/ Affiliation ¹⁰
23	Areas around Ghost Town of Bodie	Mono	Historical viewshed	Preserve	
24	Mono Lake/ Mammoth		Owens Valley		Laura Shell/ Supervisor Yaroslavsky
25	Hetch Hetchy Valley		Restoration of Hetch Hetchy		Richard Beban/ Poet/ Journalist
26	San Joaquin Valley		Sunny		Sabrina Drill/ U of CA Cooperative Extension-LA County
27	Santa Cruz		Redwood Forest		Scott Wilson/ Northeast Trees
28	Monterey	Monterey	Public land	More public coastal access	Fran Diamond/ LA Water Quality Coastal Board
29	Mojave River		Preservation	Monitor OHV (Off Highway Vehicles) use	Joe Decruyenaere/ LA County Regional Planning
30	Carmel/ Monterey		Coastal preservation		
31	Carmel Valley		Preserve range land	Conservation easements	Frank Simpson/ River & Mountains Conservancy
32	Morro Bay		Wetlands		Doris LaCour/ Supervisor Burke
33	Big Sur		Scenic beauty		Sabrina Drill/ U of CA Cooperative Extension-LA County
34	Hearst Ranch	San Luis Obispo	Natural area & working ranch	Preserve	
35	Big Sur	Monterey	Coastal access		David McNeill/ Baldwin Hills Conservancy
36	Central California Coast	San Luis Obispo/ Monterey	Open space; coastal resource protection	Acquisition; open space easement	M. Yamaguchi/ Santa Monica Bay Restoration Program
37	Coast and Inland area between Cayucos and Cambria	San Luis Obispo	Natural areas	Preserve as park	
38	Cayucos		Hearst property; coastal access	Acquisition	Scott Wilson/ Northeast Trees
39	Goleta Coast	San Luis Obispo	Public land	More public coastal access	Fran Diamond/ LA Water Quality Coastal Board
40	Hearst		Acquire as State Park		Ray Sauvajot/ Nat'l Park Service – Santa Monica Mtns. Nat'l Rec. Area
41	Harmony Coast	Monterey	Open space preservation		Kerry O' Toole/ American Land Conservancy
42	Morro Bay		Preserve natural area	Protect	
43	Santa Barbara		Working landscapes		Frank Simpson/ River & Mountains Conservancy
44	Pismo Beach		Coastal access		Doris LaCour/ Supervisor Burke
45	San Luis Obispo		Threats from sprawl & conversion to vineyards		
46	Northern Santa Barbara County	Santa Barbara	Some of the last remaining in California Tiger Salamander habitat (vernal pools)	Conservation easements to preserve rangeland	Bridget Fahey/ US Fish & Wildlife Service
47	Gaviota Coast		Highly diverse & relatively undisturbed coastal ecosystem		Ray Sauvajot/ Nat'l Park Service; Santa Monica Mtns. Nat'l Rec. Area

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Table 5 cont'd.

Dot	Location	County	Importance	Needed Action	Source of Information/ Affiliation ¹⁰
48	Gaviota Coast	Santa Barbara	Important remaining undeveloped coastline	Conservation easements; acquisition	Bridget Fahey/ US Fish & Wildlife Service
49	Santa Barbara	Santa Barbara	Prevent urban sprawl	National Park Service needs to purchase land	Laura Shell/ Supervisor Yaroslavsky
50	Ventura River	Ventura	Ventura River	Removal Matilija Dam	
51	Santa Clara River	Los Angeles/ Ventura	Wild river with undisturbed riparian habitat & threatened & endangered species	Acquisitions needed; river-protection from flood control structures	Melanie Winter/ The River Project
52	Santa Susana Mountains	Ventura	Large oak & walnut woodlands, grasslands, riparian habitat	Acquisition; easements	Melanie Winter/ The River Project
53	Santa Monica Mountains	Los Angeles	Resource protection	Co-op planning; land use plans; acquisition	Jo Kitz/ Mountains Restoration Trust
54	Santa Susana Pass	Los Angeles/ Ventura	Connectivity	Acquisition	Jo Kitz/ Mountains Restoration Trust
55	Santa Clara River	Los Angeles/ Ventura	Last free-flowing river in Southern California. Habitat for unarmored threespine stickleback & arroyo toads	Preservation of river corridor, natural flows, & reduce water diversions	Bridget Fahey/ US Fish & Wildlife Service
56	Linkage between Tehachapi and South Sierra		Habitat link	Acquire	Ray Sauvajot/ Nat'l Park Service, Santa Monica Mtns. Nat'l Rec. Area
57	Tehachapis to Sierras	Kern	Ecoregion linkage	Purchase conservation easement	Claire Schlotterbeck/ Hills for Everyone
58	Tejon Wildlife and Core Habitat	Los Angeles/ Kern	Wide range of habitats and wildlife linkage from Sierras to Los Padres	Easement & fee acquisition	Melanie Winter/ The River Project
59	Sierra Madre to Tehachapi		Habitat linkages	Conservation design acquisition & easement	Kristin Penrod/ Southern Coast Wildlands Project
60	Kelso Valley, South Fork of the Kern River	Kern	Relatively cheap undeveloped land, suite of endemic species between federal lands	Acquire or get into conservation	Ileene Anderson/ CA Native Plant Society
61	Owens River Valley		Importance to Department of Water and Power (DWP)	Conservation easement lands	
62	Santa Monica Bay	Los Angeles	Water quality	Watershed management	Jo Kitz/ Mountains Restoration Trust
63	San Gabriels and Los Padres	Los Angeles	Habitat linkage	Purchase	Claire Schlotterbeck/ Hills for Everyone
64	North Face San Gabriel		Open space corridor; water supply		Bobby Cochran/ Summit to the Sea
65	Wrightwood		Open space corridor; water supply		Bobby Cochran/ Summit to the Sea
66	Mojave River	San Bernardino	Primary Mojave Desert riparian Area	Acquire; preserve	Peter Kiriakos/ Sierra Club, San Gorgonio
67	Monterey	Monterey		Eradicate invasive species	Joe Decruyenaere/ LA County Regional Planning
68	Mojave Desert	San Bernardino	Medium importance	Desert Habitat Protection	Lisa Pierce/ Redlands Institute, U. of Redlands, San Timoteo Canyonlands Coalition
69	Amargosa River	Inyo/ San Bernardino	Pristine habitat for endemic plants threatened by change in hydrology (contiguous with Natural National Reserve NV)	Assure water rights for maintaining hydrological integrity	Ileene Anderson/ CA Native Plant Society

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Table 5 cont'd.

Dot	Location	County	Importance	Needed Action	Source of Information/ Affiliation ¹⁰
70	Santa Ana River State Park		Proposed park		Peter Kiriakos/ Sierra Club, San Gorgonio
71	San Jacinto River	Riverside	Suite of endemic species (federal and state listed) in fragmenting habitat	Acquisition and get into conservation	Ileene Anderson/ CA Native Plant Society
72	San Timoteo		Riparian area, proposed park	Acquisition; expansion	Peter Kiriakos/ Sierra Club, San Gorgonio
73	Baldwin Lake	San Bernardino	Most dense rare threatened & endangered species concentration in Southern California	Acquire; preserve	Peter Kiriakos/ Sierra Club, San Gorgonio
74	San Bernardino, San Jacinto	Riverside	Limited spotted owl population; corridor		Melanie Schlotterbeck/ Cal State Fullerton
75	San Gorgonio to San Bernadino mountains	San Bernadino	Habitat linkage	Purchase	Claire Schlotterbeck/ Hills for Everyone
76	Proteco	Riverside	Best Stephens' Kangaroo Rat habitat in Southern California; critical habitat linkage	Acquire; preserve	Peter Kiriakos/ Sierra Club, San Gorgonio
77	Rancho Mission Viejo	Orange	Coastal sage scrub	Full protection of Rancho Mission Viejo's core areas	
78	San Margarita River	San Diego/ Riverside	San Margarita River corridor		
79	Pechenga Corridor	San Diego	Orange to San Diego regional corridor		Melanie Schlotterbeck/ Cal State Fullerton
80	Vail Lake		Habitat area	Acquisition	Peter Kiriakos/ Sierra Club, San Gorgonio
81	San Diego		Open space preservation		
82	San Diego County	San Diego	Cleveland National Forest to Mexico, continental corridor		Melanie Schlotterbeck/ Cal State Fullerton
83	Peninsula to Borrogo		Habitat linkages		Kristin Penrod/ Southern Coast Wildlands Project
84	San Diego County	San Diego	East San Diego County "backcountry" conservation plans		
85	Salton Sea		Habitat preservation		Kristin Penrod/ Southern Coast Wildlands Project
86	Needles	San Bernardino	Medium importance; water quality	Riparian protection	Lisa Pierce/ Redlands Institute, University of Redlands, San Timoteo Canyonlands Coalition

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IV. FINAL REPORT

The Legacy Project will place an interim report from each workshop on the Legacy Project website, once it has been reviewed by participants for accuracy. The project will also further examine the existing and emerging plans, suggested conservation priorities and strategies, and the proposed places for priority investment in the region. The Legacy Project will produce a final report summarizing results from all nine workshops late in 2003. The report will be available on the website or by mail for review by all interested parties, and will be

the basis for future dialogue with regional citizens. A final wrap-up session will be held in July 2003. All former workshop participants will be invited. Information and analyses from these workshops will be shared with Resources Agency departments, boards and conservancies to assist them in their conservation investment decision-making. Workshop results will also be applied in developing better data and planning-support tools and information for stakeholders across the state.

APPENDIX A

WORKSHOP LOGISTICS

The invitation process

The Legacy Project and its consultants identified a wide range of stakeholders from throughout the region to provide as much balance in geographic distribution as possible for the “North” South Coast workshop. The compilation of the invitation list and acceptance of registrations from other interested people who contacted us was accomplished with the help of many people. The practical logistics of the effort are summarized as follows:

- The workshop regions were developed based on the California Biodiversity Council Bioregions of the State.
- Approximately 90 Advisory Committee members from public agencies, businesses, non-profit organizations, and the private sector were brought together to suggest potential candidates for the “North” South Coast workshop.
- The list was carefully reviewed and balanced for categorical inclusion and regional representation. We included a wide variety of stakeholders from public agencies to private landowners, from environmental groups to agricultural interests. Further, we continually reviewed the geographic representation, working by counties, and increased the outreach to underrepresented areas.
- Over 200 invitation letters were mailed. RSVPs were received either by phone, postcard or e-mail.
- The respondent lists were reviewed for balance in category and geographic representation, and the follow up outreach focused on underrepresented groups.

Pre-workshop packets

- As the RSVP responses were received, pre-workshop packets were subsequently mailed out.
- The packets contained detailed information on the locations, agenda, the discussion group process, and a detailed description of the Information Exchange.

Workshop participation

- There were 98 participants over the course of the day and a half workshop.

Workshop Agenda



California Legacy Project "North" South Coast Spotlight on Conservation Workshop

AGENDA

*The California
Resources
Agency*

Sponsors

Platinum:

Environment Now

*The Evan Frankel
Foundation*

*California
Department of
Parks and
Recreation*

*Trust for Public
Land*

*The Wildlands
Conservancy*

Gold:

*The Irvine
Company*

*State Parks
Foundation*

*Endangered
Habitats League*

*The Conservation
Fund*

*US Geological
Survey*

Silver:

*Defenders of
Wildlife*

*Remy, Thomas &
Moose*

Radisson Hotel at the Los Angeles International Airport
6225 West Century Boulevard, Los Angeles

September 4: Day 1

- 1:00 pm** Welcome by Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Los Angeles County; and Darryl Young, Director, California Department of Conservation.
- 1:15** Introductions and workshop overview.
- 1:30** Presentation and discussion of the Legacy Project: Madelyn Glickfeld, Assistant Secretary, The Resources Agency, California Legacy Project.
- 2:15** Break
- 2:30** Brainstorm session on established and emerging conservation plans, regional challenges, risks and opportunities.
Objective: To gain a sense of the unique characteristics of the region and how they affect conservation efforts.
- 3:45** Description of 1st small-group exercise on developing criteria used for conservation planning.
- 4:00** Information Exchange; light buffet.
Objective: To share information on natural resources and conservation in the region.
- 7:00 pm** Adjourn



California Legacy Project
 “North” South Coast
 Spotlight on Conservation Workshop

AGENDA

September 5: Day 2

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 8:00 am | Information Exchange; continental breakfast. |
| 8:30 | Introduction to 2 nd day's activities; brief review of 1 st day; review of small-group exercise on conservation “criteria.” |
| 8:45 | Small group session; identifying regional conservation criteria.
Objective: To gain a sense of criteria which participants would use for determining Investments in conservation of various resources (terrestrial biodiversity; aquatic biodiversity, riparian habitats and watersheds; working landscapes; urban open space; and rural recreation). |
| 10:30 | Break |
| 10:45 | Large group session; ranking the importance of the criteria established by the small groups.
Objective: To allow participants to hear what each group decided and have the chance to rank the relative importance of the various criteria established by the small groups. |
| 12:00 | Information Exchange; buffet lunch |
| 1:40 pm | Demonstration: using criteria in mapping high value conservation investments
Objective: To allow participants to review how conservation criteria can be used in an interactive modeling and mapping tool that helps in making conservation decisions. |
| 2:15 | Break |
| 2:25 | Small group session; conservation priorities and strategies in the region.
Objective: To gain a sense of participant's highest priorities for conservation, and to discuss strategic directions and steps to achieve these outcomes. |
| 3:45 | Report on workshop results to Mary Nichols, Secretary for Resources. |
| 4:45 | Brief discussion of next steps and follow-up. |
| 5:00 pm | Adjourn |

APPENDIX B

INFORMATION EXCHANGE DATA

AVAILABLE DATA & DATA NEEDS			
LA workshop		** Approximation only--refer to original physical map for detailed location	
		C = correction	N = needed
		AV = available	

ID	Data	Comment	Location**	Source of information
1	AV	USBR Lake Casitas Open Space 3,000 acres, no cropland use	25 miles north of Ventura	Bobby Cochran
2	AV	Santa Clara River Parkway approximately 4,100 acres acquired	Stretching 60 miles upstream from the mouth of the Santa Clara River	The Nature Conservancy/ State Coastal Conservancy
3	AV	Ormond Beach, 265 acres acquired by the Coastal Conservancy	15 miles south of Oxnard	Coastal Conservancy
4	AV	Calleguas watershed 1000 sq miles around Camarillo, Simi Valley & Thousand Oaks	Calleguas watershed 1000 sq miles around Camarillo, Simi Valley & Thousand Oaks	Ron Dow, Military (all bases) Integrated Natural Resources Management Plans
5	C	Military Ownership (DOD)	25 miles south of Oxnard	Ron Dow, Military (all bases) Integrated Natural Resources Management Plans
6	AV	Public Land- Mountains restoration trust	30 miles east of Malibu & 10 miles west of Santa Monica	Mountains Restoration Trust
7	C	State Park Land	next to MRT land 30 miles east of Malibu & 10 miles west of Santa Monica	
8	C	City of Monrovia & Monrovia Wild Lands Conservancy, 400 acres for the conservancy	20 miles east of Pasadena	
9	C	Owned by O.C. Harbors, Beaches & Parks	20 miles north east of Fullerton	
10	C	County boundary is wrong, add 670 acres to Riverside County	45 miles south west of the City of Riverside	
11	C	Irvine Company donations, 11,000 acres in Orange County	15 miles from Irvine	
12	AV	State Parks purchased land, 595 acres	The land is located where Orange County, Riverside County and San Bernardino County converge. Along the Santa Ana River	

APPENDIX C

WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS

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